

# The Leader.

## A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

### Contents:

<b>REVIEW OF THE WEEK—</b>	<b>PAGE</b>	<b>Naval and Military</b> .....	<b>537</b>	<b>The Sore Point</b> .....	<b>541</b>	<b>Trans-Atlantic Letter-Day Poetry</b> .....	<b>547</b>
Imperial Parliament.....	531	Obituary.....	537	Indian Public Works.....	542	The Municipal Directory.....	548
The Wellington College.....	533	Miscellaneous.....	537				
Charitable Festivals.....	533	Postscript.....	538	<b>LITERATURE—</b>		<b>THE ARTS—</b>	
The Convict Palmer.....	533			Summary.....	543	The Picture Gallery at the Crystal	548
The Bankruptcy of Mark Boyd.....	534	<b>PUBLIC AFFAIRS—</b>		Froude's History of England.....	543	Palace.....	548
Our Civilization.....	534	America.....	538	A Lady in Persia.....	544	The Amateur Pantomime.....	548
America.....	535	The Great Secret Society.....	539	Imaginative Artists.....	545	Ristori.....	548
Continental Notes.....	536	The Services of the Army.....	539	The Maistre Memoirs.....	546		
State of Trade.....	537	Palmer—as an Artist.....	540	The Sandwich and Society Islands.....	546	<b>COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—</b>	
Ireland.....	537	A Challenge to the Revolution.....	541			City Intelligence, Markets, &c.....	549

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### Review of the Week.

**C**ESSATION of diplomatic intercourse with America—that is the news of the week. Our Ministers would not recal Mr. CRAMPTON; Mr. CRAMPTON, therefore, is reported to have been dismissed, and Mr. DALLAS may or may not cross him on the high seas. The British representative returns with something more than an official censure hanging to his name. He is charged, by the United States Government, with having made, withdrawn, and denied an important admission. It is a question of practical falsehood between Mr. CRAMPTON on one side, and Mr. CLAYTON, Mr. MARCY, and Mr. CASS on the other, and the difficulty is to believe one witness in preference to three. But the personal matter is insignificant in comparison with the vast interests that now depend on the decision of the two Governments. Technically, the dismissal of the British Minister from Washington is a step nearer war; essentially, it ought to tend towards a reconciliation. The obnoxious agent has disappeared from the scene; if negotiations are still carried on, they will be conducted indirectly; America will not be required to receive Mr. CRAMPTON again, and the general dispute is reduced to a point so fine, that it would be worse than infatuation to make it a cause of war. This is no time for England to be fighting across the Atlantic. Certain continental Powers might not regret to see the unworn Baltic armaments hurried into the western hemisphere, Europe free from the weight of English councils, Manchester at a stop-still, Lancashire in insurrection, Englishmen and Americans killing each other in the north, while Spaniards and Mexicans spread the battle southwards; but we have interests at home which will not allow us, at this particular moment, to play that desperate game. There is little encouragement in the promise of the *Morning Post*, that LOUIS NAPOLEON would be still our faithful and active ally.

The Kings are exchanging courtesies after the war. The Emperor of RUSSIA, at Berlin, has saluted his brother of Austria. At Berlin, also, TALMA might play a second time to a pit full of royalty. Two sovereign princes, an empress-mother, a queen consort, one of the stately grand-dukes of Russia, a group of the itinerant princes of Germany, and the diademed of the other sex, are glittering at the court of FREDERICK WIL-

LIAM. Friendly notes from Vienna and Paris have been addressed to the Pope, who has sent to Paris, in return, his sacred ambassador to christen the Child of France. Meanwhile, the Child of France promises to be but a sickly flower. EUGENIE droops in the June sun, and LOUIS NAPOLEON himself, who rides the ark of the inundation, endures his old rheumatic griefs. He shed tears, say private letters of "our own correspondents," as the echoes of welcome swept to him down the vale of the Rhone; but the curious circumstance is that a nation so deeply moved by the love of this aguish CÆSAR, is not permitted to speak, or publish, or elect, and is confessed by the flatterers of the Empire to bear a swarming progeny of revolutionary societies. La Beauce, the Lombardy of France, is a lake. The Loiret and the Rhone are united by vast streams of water. The wrecks of farms and villages float to the sea; the population retires to the hills. In the midst of this terrible tableau appears the Emperor in Council, and ten millions of public money are voted for the relief of the sufferers. Somebody must be praised for this generosity, and, as LOUIS NAPOLEON officiates, the flattery falls to him. But the floods threaten the harvest, and the harvest threatens the revenue, and the *Moniteur* says there is no fear of revenue or harvest, and good people abroad believe the *Moniteur*, and the sceptics at home are sent to Cayenne, and irony wears the crown.

In the midst of irony serious events move on. The Russian journals in Belgium predict a disturbance in Italy "within six weeks," and though this is meant, probably, as no more than a taunt to Austria, the darkening aspects of the peninsula justify increased apprehension. The outburst of a popular war is not impossible; the getting up of a few police insurrections is very probable indeed. Austria can then hang off the most troublesome patriots. She appears to have failed in engaging Russia to join the new Holy Alliance, though FREDERICK WILLIAM is ready enough to embrace his kinsman ALEXANDER, and utter a pompous speech on the necessity of keeping Europe in order. But LOUIS NAPOLEON thinks that to be his own task. If only he could carry out a plan for the consolidation of despotic authority, and elect himself Chairman of the Company, it would much assist in suppressing the painful rumours of revolution in Italy, the continual irritation that pricks his power in France, the inconvenient action of minor states; and not-

withstanding the diplomatic disclosures of the *Post*, it might forward this scheme could Great Britain be disengaged from her European connexions, and induced to send our admirals drifting in the track of the caravels of COLUMBUS. The new sort of despot has already experimented upon Belgium, and he, or some one else, has been tampering with Sardinia. But the plot of the two Powers—to which England only "adheres"—is upon an elastic plan. Austria "hurls back at Turin the accusations made by the Sardinian Plenipotentiaries," and undertakes to defend, not only her own territories, but those of all the Italian princes, VICTOR EMMANUEL excepted. What do our Ministers say to this assumption of a general Italian protectorate? What they do, and what they say, is known to them and to their correspondents, the foreign diplomatists; the British people, one, we may suppose, of the "parties concerned," not being in the least informed of the proceedings taken in its august name.

Parliament, under the influence of the sudden heat, begins to grow weary of its toil, and to think more of the races and the moors than of dry business at St. Stephen's. It sits grudgingly; and on Tuesday the faithful Commons were unfaithful enough not to "make a House." The transactions of honourable members when they have met have not presented us with much that is either interesting or important. The Committee of Supply has been drudging through its work much after the usual fashion, with the customary amount of opposition from Mr. WILLIAMS and a few other watch-dog members, and the general triumph of vested interests in the adoption of disputed votes. Some criticisms, however, by Mr. LOCKE KING on the unsatisfactory labours of the Statute Law Commission (for which a vote of 19111. was asked and granted) elicited from Sir FITZROY KELLY a statement to the effect that the Commission has in fact been making way; that the work is mainly done; and that we are shortly to see on the table of the House seventeen or eighteen bills for reducing our chaos of confused and contradictory laws to something like compact, harmonious, and comprehensible shape—assuredly, not before the need of some such arrangement was grievously felt, since we are only now beginning to effect what Lord BACON indicated 'as a necessity two centuries and a half ago.

A bomb directed against the unhappy little kingdom of Greece by Mr. JAMES MCGREGOR,

previous to going into Committee of Supply, stimulated Lord PALMERSTON to let off a much more startling missile in the same direction. Mr. MCGREGOR called attention to the anarchy that now desolates the Hellenic peninsula, and expressed his wish that the monarch should be compelled to reform, or, as a kind of milder alternative, if the first were impossible, that the Greek King should be again reduced to the petty German Prince. To this, Lord PALMERSTON—one of the founders of modern Greece—replied by charging King OTTO and his Government with evasion, corruption, and underhand treachery against the constitution, and by hinting that it would be impossible to anticipate the future policy of England and France. So that Greece is placed side by side with Naples under the shadow of an implied threat.

The Scotch Parochial School Bill—a step towards the secularization of schools north of the Tweed by doing away with any religious test for the masters—has passed the second reading in the Commons; and the Lords have been sitting in committee on the bill for “reforming” the appellate jurisdiction of that House, by authorizing the QUEEN to appoint two Deputy Speakers, at 6000*l.* a year each, to assist the Lords in their judicial duties; by allowing the House of Lords, as a legal court, to sit during the vacation or at any time of year; by imposing on the country a large additional expense in salaries and pensions; and by hinting at a limitation of the prerogative of the Crown by declaring that the monarch may make four life peers, which is equivalent to saying that no greater number shall be created. The country will hardly be satisfied with this attempt to stave off some reform which shall really prevent the last resort of justice being something very like a solemn sham; but, in the meanwhile, the House seemed satisfied, and would not agree with Lord ABERDEEN's protest, rising out of the depths of his nationality, against hearing Scotch appeals in a court where the majority of the auditors is composed of Englishmen ignorant of the Scotch law. His Lordship proposed a court of final appeal in Scotland; but the feeling of the House was against him—Lord ST. LEONARDS declaring that English lawyers are by no means ignorant of Scotch law, and even the Duke of ARGYLL and Lord CAMPBELL, despite their Caledonian birth and blood, disagreeing with the suggestion. One of the most noticeable features of the discussion, however, was that put forward by Earl FITZWILLIAM, who reminded the Peers, parenthetically, that they are not a “House,” but an Apartment: the Constitution, he said, supposes their Lordships to sit in an apartment of the QUEEN's palace, and, therefore, they have no right to touch the prerogative!

Mr. GEORGE MOORE, by 88 votes to 59, and without verbal opposition on the part of any member, has carried his Irish Tenant Right Bill through the second reading. The bill proposes to secure to tenants the proper benefit of their expenditure, either in labour or capital, and to place restraints upon the landlords' powers of eviction.

While our representatives are making and unmaking, amending and augmenting, the laws which govern us, the co-ordinate process of defying all such decrees, as well as those of higher origin, goes on as usual; and the law-breakers attract more attention than the law-makers. The ground swell consequent on the grand PALMERSTONIAN tempest of the two preceding weeks exhibits itself this week in the last desperate efforts of the convict to escape the penalty awarded him. Mr. JOHN SMITH, PALMER's solicitor, has put forth a plea for the condemned, on the ground that Dr. TAYLOR's hypothesis of complete absorption of strychnine into the system after it has done its fatal work, provided there be no more than is sufficient to kill, is “new and hypothetical;” and

he therefore asks for a Government commission to test the accuracy of Dr. TAYLOR's assertions—PALMER's sentence, in the meanwhile, to stand in abeyance. The chain of evidence was confessedly imperfect, inasmuch as strychnine was not found in COOKE's body; but the weight of the other testimony was so great that we may grant the particular weakness in question, and yet remain in possession of an overwhelming case against the condemned man. Lord CAMPBELL instructed the jury that it was not necessary, in point of law, that the poison should have been discovered in order that the accused should be found guilty; and assuredly, as a matter of moral conviction, the case does not rest merely on the grounds of scientific dogma. Still, we cannot refuse to any human being, under such circumstances, a fair consideration of all doubtful points. It must be admitted, also, that a strong feeling is getting abroad in favour of a commutation of the capital sentence. The convict is besieged in his prison by importunate letter-writers, who express their commiseration in prose and verse, and generally conclude their communications with the polite intimation—“an answer will oblige;” the object of course being mainly to get an autograph of the wonderful man of Rugeley. Petitions in favour of transportation instead of hanging are now lying for signature; and, upon the whole, it seems as if the exciting bets of “PALMER against CALCRAFT” might be renewed. Altogether, a singular specimen of our nineteenth century virtue is here presented for the jibes of scoffers and the edification of the thoughtful.

The police courts do not present us with much of interest; but in the Bankruptcy Court the affairs of the sempiternal MARK BOYD have again appeared, with their revelations of gigantic and multifarious commercial vice, and the SADLER disclosures continue. Side by side with those revelations, we have the fact of an extension of clemency to Mr. BATES, who, as the sham partner in the house of STRAHAN, PAUL, and BATES, is considered, and not unreasonably, to have shared only in a minor degree in the guilt of the two veritable partners. But what are we to think of that state of the trading world in which such assumptions of a position not warranted by fact are of common occurrence?

Guilt, however, has not had it all to itself in this bright young summer weather. The week just concluded has been in many respects a week of charity. Not a day has passed without celebrating the anniversaries of several benevolent associations. Benevolence has mated with pantomime at the Lyceum. The Strangers' Home for natives of the Orient and of Africa was inaugurated by Prince ALBERT last Saturday; and on Monday the QUEEN laid the first stone of the Wellington College, an institution the object of which will be to take care of the orphans of soldiers. The ceremony took place under beautiful and touching circumstances. The sun shone out with midsummer brightness and heat; the wind came softly and balmily from the west; and there, on the woody knoll selected for the building, and glancing over heathy soil and dark, rough moorland to the far metropolis and the wealthy valley of the Thames, the scene was rendered doubly glad by the bright flutter of ladies' dresses and the flare of military scarlet. But there was a pathos in the thought of the many soldiers' orphans which the late war had created; and the QUEEN's voice faltered as she connected the name of her son ARTHUR with the great soldier whose title had been given to the building then commenced. And so the criminal side of human nature finds its balance in active sympathy, and regard for the necessities of others.

The constitution of the army came before the notice of the House on Thursday, on the occasion of a speech by Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT in

favour of a better organization of the raw energies of our troops, and of an improved education for officers and men. In a speech which won the attention of members, and drew forth courteous expressions from Lord PALMERSTON, Mr. HERBERT exhibited the deficiency of our brave soldiers in a knowledge of those practical acquirements which form part of the active potency of an army in the field, and in that capability of self-reliance which is half the battle in prolonged operations. He also showed—what the newspapers, ourselves included, have shown before him—that our officers, relying too much on “the guinea stamp,” have neglected a theoretical knowledge of their art; and he ventured to suggest to the House various plans for remedying these defects from which we have already grievously suffered. Ministers of course would not commit themselves—they never commit themselves except to a blunder; but they stated that the subject is under their consideration, and that no efforts shall be spared for future improvement.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the first week of May, the deaths registered in London rose to 1154; during the following weeks, they have shown a constant decrease, and in the last week of the month, which ended last Saturday, they were 1027. In the week preceding that on which the mortality rose, the mean weekly temperature had fallen to 41·3 deg.; in three subsequent weeks, it rose to 44·3 deg., 51·2 deg., and 53·1 deg.; and last week it was 53·3 deg. In the corresponding weeks of the last ten years, 1846-55, the average number of deaths was 952, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1047. The number, as shown by the present returns, is therefore less than, but not materially different from, the estimated amount. The number of births registered in the week was 1578; and there was an excess of 551 in the number of persons born as compared with those who died. The oldest person recorded in the returns of deaths is a widow who lived in Battersea, and had attained the age of ninety-four years. A man died from “typhoid fever and melancholia” in the Shoreditch workhouse. Seven days before his death, the police had brought him and his wife to the house from Wellington-street, King'sland-road, both in a very emaciated state. It appears that he had gone to the docks on the morning of the 21st ult. in quest of employment, but arrived too late to obtain it, and on returning home had attempted to destroy himself by strangulation.—From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.

MR. LAYARD, M.P., arrived at Constantinople on the 20th ult., and has been entertained by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

MR. HENRY MAYHEW, through his friend Mr. Euston, has published a long correspondence between himself and Dr. Taylor, from whom he demanded an explanation with respect to the assertions on the trial of Palmer in connexion with Mr. Mayhew. Dr. Taylor refuses to explain, but refers Mr. Mayhew to his solicitors. The dispute, therefore, remains to be settled by law.

MASSONIC DÉJEUNER AT OXFORD.—A massonic déjeuner, in honour of Mr. Beach, M.A., of Christ Church, one of the masters of the body (to whom a testimonial was presented), was given in Worcester Gardens, Oxford, on Monday. The Vice-Chancellor and the Earl of Carnarvon were among the guests.

“FROM OXFORD TO ROME.”—The Weekly Register and Catholic Standard of Saturday announces that two Protestant clergymen have been received into the Roman Catholic Church. The one is the Rev. F. Temple, M.A., Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford, and late principal of the Government Training College at Kneller-hall; and the other is a son of the celebrated Rev. Dr. Arnold, of Rugby.

THE NEW BISHOP OF CARLISLE AND THE LOCAL CEMETERY.—The new Bishop of Carlisle, taking an opposite course to his predecessor, has consented, says the Carlisle Journal, to consecrate the cemetery without requiring the erection of a stone fence or any inviolable barrier between the portion of the ground appropriated to the members of the Church of England and that devoted to persons who are not members of that body. He is perfectly satisfied with boundary stones.

MADAME RONCONI.—A gentleman, accompanied by a lady who was stated to be the wife of Signor Ronconi, the singer at the Italian Opera, applied at Marlborough-street for the advice of Mr. Bingham. Madame Ronconi had been separated from Signor Ronconi for some time, her allowance from her husband being 24,000*fr.* a year. A report having been spread abroad that Madame Ronconi was dead, the allowance was stopped, and the lady had in consequence been reduced to great distress. She had come to this country to assert her claims; but her husband refused to do anything towards her support, on the unfounded plea of adultery in Italy, and she was now in great distress. Mr. Bingham said the applicant could either consult a solicitor or might apply to the authorities of the parish in which she was at present living.



## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, June 2nd.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, on the motion of the Duke of ARBUTHNOT, the REFORMATORY SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL—the object of which is simply to remedy certain defects in the machinery of a bill passed in 1854—was read a second time, without discussion.

## NIGHT SIGNALS AT SEA.

LORD DUNCANSON asked if the Government intended by any measure to compel coasting vessels, or vessels sailing in the Channel by night, to exhibit lights, and whether the Admiralty had under consideration any new plan of night signals for sailing ships.—Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY stated that the whole subject was under consideration by the Admiralty.—The Earl of HARDWICKE doubted the expediency of compelling both ships and steamers to observe the same regulations.

After getting through some merely routine business, the House adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, LORD SANDON took the oath and his seat on his election for the borough of Lichfield, in the room of Lord Waterpark, resigned.

## APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved that a message should be sent to the House of Lords to request their Lordships to communicate to that House a copy of the report of the select committee appointed by their Lordships on the Appellate Jurisdiction.—Agreed to.

## MOLDO-WALLACHIA.

LORD PALMERSTON, replying to some questions put by Mr. ROEBUCK, stated, with respect to the Commission appointed to settle the form of Government of the Danubian Principalities, that England, France, and Turkey reserve to themselves the power to give to their Commissioners such instructions as might seem proper. The Commissioners would not proceed to the discussion of any business until the Divans should be convoked, which would not take place till the evacuation of the countries by the foreign troops has been completed. The Russians, however, could not evacuate that part of Bessarabia which has been ceded to Turkey until the settlement of the new line of frontier; and this would be a work of time. It would not be expedient to produce the instructions which had been framed for the English Commissioners.

## MILITARY MONUMENT AT SCUTARI.

Mr. ROEBUCK wished to inquire whether there had been any public competition among the sculptors of this country in regard to the monument to be erected at Scutari, in memory of those who had died there.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said he believed an agreement had already been entered into with Baron Marochetti for the erection of the work in question.—Mr. ROEBUCK said he thought he might gather from the reply that there had been no public competition.

## STATE OF GREECE.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. JAMES MCGREGOR, pursuant to notice, called attention to the state of Greece, and, pointing out its lawless condition, desired to hear from Lord Palmerston some explanation of the policy, or the degree of coercion, he meant to bring to bear on the Greek monarch and Government. That Government had as yet made no progress towards establishing the constitution which, no doubt, the noble Lord designed should be established; and he believed the Premier would be doing the greatest service to Greece itself by exercising a degree of coercion which, by improving the system of administration, would enforce the fulfilment of existing obligations. He hoped to hear that the definite object of that occupation was to compel the court of Greece to lessen its extravagant expenditure and to discontinue its corrupt practices; or, if this object could not be secured, he hoped Lord Palmerston, who had made the King of Greece, would feel it consistent with his duty, and with the interest of this country, to reduce him again to the position in which he found him—namely, that of a German prince.

LORD PALMERSTON replied that the Piræus had been occupied by French and English troops in consequence of measures of aggression against Turkey, to which the Government of Greece was accessory. But unfortunately that measure on the part of France and England had not resulted in any improvement either in the system of Government or the internal condition of the country. The truth was, that the Government and Court party, ever since the accession of King Otho, had endeavoured to get rid of the check of constitutional forms by corrupt and indirect means; and the king had evaded the engagement he was under to give to his subjects a representative government. At length, in 1843, came the insurrection which extorted from him those institutions which he had been unwilling to give; since which time, no efforts have been spared for corrupting, by bribes, first the electors, and then the elected; so that the Greek Parliament is now but a shadow of the substance. As the guarantee of the debt is common to the three Powers (England, France, and Russia), it had been held that no one Power is entitled to enforce its own claim. It would not be possible to anticipate the future policy of England and France with respect to Greece.

Mr. MONCKTON MILES believed that there is a fair prospect that the system of brigandage will be put an end to.

The House then went into Committee of

## SUPPLY.

On the first vote (3,461*l.*, for the Ecclesiastical Commissioners), Mr. WILLIAMS divided the House, as he conceived that the Established Church ought to pay its own commissioners. The division showed 166 for the vote and 66 against it.

A discussion arose on the vote of 16,022*l.*, for the Charity Commissioners, when Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr. MOWBRAY, said that Sir George Grey intended to bring in a measure (though probably not this session) for the purpose of carrying out the schemes recommended in the reports of the Charity Commissioners.—Several members objected to the unnecessary magnitude of the vote, and to the expenses incurred in the administration of charity suits, which, it was alleged, had been multiplied greatly of late years by law officers for the sake of costs; but ultimately, on a division, the House affirmed the vote by 146 to 40.

The next vote was 1,911*l.* for the Statute Law Commission, when Mr. LOCKE KING complained that no reform in the shape of consolidation or codification had resulted from the Commission. He objected to the appointment of Mr. Bellenden Ker, who had but little experience in the statute law, and who did not give all his time to the duties of the Commission.—Mr. BAILEY denied that private friendship (as had been suggested) had anything to do with Mr. Ker's appointment. The commissioners had done much in the way of preparation for acts of Parliament; and several measures for the consolidation of divers laws were being considered.—This testimony was confirmed by Sir FITZROY KELLY, who stated that seventeen or eighteen bills, resulting from the labours of the Commission, would shortly be laid on the table of the House. The statutes were to a great extent already consolidated, and indexes of obsolete and repealed statutes had been made.—After a great deal of discussion (in the course of which Lord JOHN RUSSELL expressed himself dissatisfied with the progress that had been made by the Commission, and suggested that, in imitation of the system pursued by the first Napoleon, reports should be prepared by the commissioners, and afterwards submitted to the judges for correction), the vote was carried by 70 to 54, notwithstanding what Mr. LOCKE KING called a conclusive reason against adopting it—viz., that it appeared, from a return just made, that there was then a balance in the hands of the commissioners of 3,029*l.*, and that there was no reason why they should add to that amount.

A vote of 21,842*l.*, for fees, salaries, and compensations, payable under the provisions of the Patent Law Amendment Act, and another for 13,500 for the Board of Fisheries, Scotland, were agreed to, after some opposition by Mr. WILLIAMS and others, who thought the votes unnecessary. The House divided on the latter vote, as Mr. WILLIAMS declined to withdraw his opposition to the vote for the North of Scotland Fisheries Board, although an assurance was given by Mr. WILSON that the vote would not again appear in its present shape. The report of the commission of inquiry would decide whether the board would be dissolved or continued upon a self-supporting principle. The vote was carried by 162 to 39.

Progress was then reported, and the House resumed.

## PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The debate on the second reading of this bill, adjourned from the 26th of April, was resumed by Sir JAMES FERGUSON, who supported the measure because it did not alter the present state of things with respect to religious teaching. He suggested, however, that there should be a provision in the bill which should make it compulsory on all schoolmasters to be of some definite Christian persuasion.—Mr. CUMMING BRUCE would not divide the House on the question of the second reading, though he was opposed to the bill, but would endeavour to persuade the House not to go into committee on the measure as it stood.—Mr. BLACKBURN, Mr. MACKIE, and Mr. JOHNSTONE, also dissented from the bill, on the ground that the abolition of the religious test for schoolmasters would have the effect of secularizing the education of the people of Scotland.—Mr. BLACK defended the bill, and observed that the best guarantee for religious teaching is to be found in the religious principles of the Scotch.—The LORD ADVOCATE, having gone through the clauses of the bill, observed that the Presbytery would still retain a superintendence over the schools, and asserted that there is ample security for religious teaching, though not of a sectarian character.—After some further discussion, of a rather rambling nature, the bill was read a second time.

## JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES BILL.

This bill was read a third time, and passed.—In discussing the added clauses, Mr. HENLEY moved that 46, 47, and 48 should be left out. The clauses related to the appointment of inspectors by the Board of Trade to look into the accounts and ascertain the insolvency of companies. Such a duty as that, Mr. Henley thought, ought to be left to the parties immediately concerned, and not imposed on a public office.—Mr. LOWE, on the other hand, argued that, for want of such a law as these clauses would establish, parties who suspect something

wrong in the management of companies, but who are in the minority, are unable to avert ruin. He instanced the Tipperary Bank as a case in point.—On a division, the clauses were affirmed by 42 to 32.

The PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPLEMENTAL BILL, and Sir WILLIAM FENWICK WILLIAMS'S ANNUITY BILL, were both read a third time, and passed.

Tuesday, June 3rd.

## APPELLATE JURISDICTION (HOUSE OF LORDS) BILL.

On the order of the day in the HOUSE OF LORDS for going into committee on this bill, the Earl of ARBUTHNOT suggested that all Scotch appeals should be removed from the jurisdiction of the House, and referred to a court of final appeal for Scotland, composed of persons of weight and authority; though he admitted that this was a rather "revolutionary" proposal. As regarded Scotland, the appellate jurisdiction exercised by the House is an act of usurpation. The most eminent English lawyers are ignorant of Scotch law, and despise it; and even Lord Erskine had declared in his (Lord Aberdeen's) presence, thirty years ago, that he was "as ignorant of Scotch law as if he had been a native of Mexico." Owing to this ignorance, a Scotch appeal had been regarded as a kind of lottery. His views on this matter were, he admitted, not popular in Scotland; but he believed they would gain ground. It was surprising to him that so sensible a people as the Scotch should submit to a tribunal foreign to, and comparatively ignorant of, their law.

The Earl of DERRY, replying to the observations of Lord Aberdeen, said that, although, on the committee, he had stated the case of Scotch appeals as constituting one of several objections raised against the existing system, he had carefully abstained from committing himself to any of those objections. He did not think any case had been made out with respect to Scotland, such as would legitimately call for a change in the existing jurisdiction.

LORD ST. LEONARDS denied the assertion of Lord Aberdeen that English lawyers are ignorant of Scotch law. It was most unfortunate that, in support of this assertion, the noble Lord should have mentioned the name of Erskine as one who professed to know nothing of Scotch law. That Judge was himself a Scotchman, and therefore ought to have known something of the laws of his own country. A lawyer could not attain eminence at the bar without being practically acquainted with Scotch law; and he (Lord St. Leonards) was of opinion that, without such knowledge, no man ought to be placed on the woolsack. The Scotch agents are well aware that English barristers make themselves masters of Scotch cases, or they would not be so desirous of engaging them to conduct the appeals from Scotland. He (Lord St. Leonards) had great practice in Scotch cases at that bar, and a Scotch agent came to him and asked him to undertake all the cases, and he should have a brief in every case. Now, that did not look like alarm on the part of Scotchmen that their interests would suffer in the hands of English lawyers. No man admired more than he did the ability and learning of the Scotch advocates at the bar; but, at the same time, he objected to a Scotch Judge being brought up to take part in the appellate jurisdiction.

The Duke of ARBUTHNOT thought that the observations of Lord Aberdeen had been greatly misunderstood; but still he feared they would damage the bill. Several witnesses from Scotland, who were examined before the committee, strongly urged that there should be by law one Scotch Judge always present in that House. He confessed he entered upon the consideration of the question with every disposition which national feeling could prompt to sustain it; but he thought Lord Aberdeen would agree with him, that it was the impression of the committee that that was not the remedy which they could adopt. As regarded the creation of a new tribunal in Scotland, there was not one witness in favour of the proposition: all were desirous of preserving the power of appeal to the House of Lords.

The Earl of WICKLOW thought the bill contained much that was objectionable.—LORD CAMPBELL would take upon himself to assert that the universal voice of Scotland is in favour of appeals being decided by the House of Lords.—The Marquis of LANSDOWN supported the bill, but remarked that the resolution of the House which excluded Lord Wensleydale was only an expression of opinion, and could not have the force of an Act of Parliament.—LORD FITZWILLIAM conceived that the House had got into a difficulty from which it could not be extricated by the present bill.—EARL GRANVILLE said the Government had thought it desirable to come to a satisfactory arrangement of the matter in dispute, but they did not admit that they were wrong in the course they had originally proposed, and still less that any resolution of the House could bind the Crown.—The Earl of DERRY having complimented the Government on the fairness with which it had acted, the House went into committee, the various clauses of the measure were agreed to, and the bill was reported.

The OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL was read a third time, and passed.

The COMMONS were unable to "make a House."

Wednesday, June 4th.

## THE AUTHORIZED VERSION OF THE BIBLE.

Mr. HETWOOD, in the HOUSE OF COMMONS, gave notice that, on Tuesday, the 1st of July, he would move an

address to the Crown, praying that "Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to give such directions as to her may seem meet for the appointment of a Royal commission to inquire into the state of the authorized version of the Bible."

#### INTERCESSION FOR CRIMINALS.

Mr. DRUMMOND gave notice that, on an early day, he should make a motion having for its object to relieve the Secretary of State for the Home Department from the importunities to which he is now subjected on behalf of criminals sentenced to death, whereby the decisions of courts of justice are oftentimes set aside.

#### TENANT RIGHT (IRELAND) BILL.

Mr. GEORGE MOORE moved the second reading of this bill. Calling attention to the claims of the Irish people, he described his countrymen as holding a very important position in the United Kingdom. "They form a fifth part of the whole population of these kingdoms; they are a fourth part of the labouring classes of that population; they form a third of those who held the spade and the plough; they are half of the men who wield the mallet and the sword; they are the hardy and stalwart descendants of an ancient race, who once held all the lands of Ireland from sea to sea—who were deprived of those lands by force and fraud—who have been trampled down into a peasantry by the malice preposse of law—who have been deprived of a middle class by express legislation." But they would willingly forget their injuries if they were treated with fairness. Among those injuries are the laws affecting the occupiers and cultivators of land; and the bill before the House proposed to remedy the evil. It contained four principal propositions, two of which were primary and general, and two ancillary and incidental. 1. That provision should be made by law for securing to tenants the proper benefit of expenditure, either in labour or capital, made by them on the land in their lawful possession, and to provide compensation for improvements to outgoing tenants. 2. That rights arising out of prescriptive custom, in certain parts, should no longer depend upon the caprice or the necessities of particular classes, but should be defined and fixed, as far as they rest upon justice, by the law. 3. That restraints should be placed upon the powers exercised by landlords of evicting, according to the markets, vast masses of men without any regard to the exigencies of the empire. 4. That the law should interpose to regulate the anomalies which have arisen out of the disturbing elements of violent legislative changes, and out of the famine of 1846 and succeeding years. He believed the present time to be the best for such a reform, because there is perfect tranquillity in Ireland, and because the Irish in America are beginning to be dissatisfied with that country, and might easily be won over by fairness and consideration. But, if we refused the Irish their just demands, the strength which we had driven forth to the United States would be used against us. The time would inevitably come when we should have to renew the war with Russia; "a party of semi-fanatical and semi-barbarous blockheads in America" had already threatened war; we might have to fight at the same time both in the East and the West; and we should then have need of the "stubborn virtue" of Ireland. An act of justice would reclaim willing soldiers from the further shores of the Atlantic, by a process of enlistment for which we should never have to apologize to any nation in the world.

Mr. MAGUIRE seconded the motion.

The SPEAKER having put the question, and no member presenting himself to address the House, there were loud cries of "Agreed." The question being again put, two or three "Noes" were pronounced. The Speaker declared in favour of the "Ayes," but, after considerable hesitation, the decision was questioned, and the House proceeded to a division, when there appeared—

For the second reading ...	88
Against it ...	59

Majority for the second reading ... —29

The announcement was received with cheers.

The SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY INSTITUTIONS BILL was committed *pro forma*, with a view to recommittal.

The House then went into committee on the DISSENTERS' MARRIAGES BILL, and considerable progress was made, when the hour of adjournment arrived.

The EXCISE BILL passed through committee, and the House adjourned shortly before six o'clock.

Thursday, June 5th.

The ROYAL ASSENT was given by commission in the HOUSE OF LORDS to several measures.

#### REPORTED DISMISSAL OF THE BRITISH MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.

The Earl of HARDWICKE asked if the report in the public journals that Mr. Crampton had been dismissed by the Government of the United States was authentic. —Earl GRANVILLE stated that the Government had received no official announcement of the fact.

The PEACE PRESERVATION (IRELAND) BILL was read a third time, and passed.

#### APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

On the report of the amendments to the Peers' Appellate Jurisdiction Bill being considered, the LORD CHANCELLOR moved the insertion of a clause empowering a peer who had filled the office of Lord Chancellor to take the office of Deputy Speaker, though he might not have sat for five years as a Judge.—A short discussion

followed on the principle of the bill itself; when Lord DENMAN and the Earl of WICKLOW strongly condemned it.—The Earl of MINTO moved the addition to the bill of a proviso declaring that nothing in the act should be construed as limiting the rights of the prerogative; but, as Earl GRANVILLE thought the proviso unnecessary, it was withdrawn, and the report was received, Lord DENMAN giving notice that, at the next stage of the bill, he should move that it be read a third time on that day six months, and that he would divide the House on the question.

#### CONSECRATION OF BURIAL GROUNDS.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY presented a petition from the Mayor and inhabitants of Blandford, complaining of the non-consecration of their new burial ground, owing to a disagreement with the Bishop of Salisbury, who required, contrary to the wishes of the Burial Board and the inhabitants, that a communion-table should be placed in the chapel attached to the cemetery.—The Bishop of SALISBURY defended his course of proceeding, on the ground that the Communion is an essential part of the service of consecration.—Lord PORTMAN observed that the law only requires a place for the celebration of the burial service; but the Bishop required a Church of England chapel. He thought that the Law Lords should devise some means for taking this irresponsible power out of the hands of one individual.—Lord REDESDALE held that the Bishop had acted with perfect propriety.—The Bishop of OXFORD took the same view, contending that, according to the canons, the consecration of a building is not complete until the Communion has been celebrated. He very much regretted to hear Lord Portman insinuate that the Bishop of Salisbury wished to resort to the subtle dishonesty of turning these cemetery chapels into ordinary chapels.—The Earl of PORTSMOUTH thought it was high time that something should be done to settle such disputes.—Lord DUNGANNON defended the conduct of the Bishop of Salisbury; and the subject then dropped.

#### THE ITALIAN QUESTION.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in laying on the table copies of the notes presented by the Sardinian Plenipotentiaries to the Congress of Paris, with the answer to them, stated that at first it was not thought necessary to send any answer; but the Sardinian Government having pressed for one, he had sent a reply in which he could do nothing more than repeat on paper the arguments he had made use of, by word of mouth, during the Conferences. Before Parliament separated, it might be advisable to discuss the subject fully; but at the present moment debate would be injurious. He could state that the Powers who now maintain armies of occupation in Italy are sincerely anxious to withdraw their forces, and, indeed, are occupied in doing so.

#### THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TENANT RIGHT BILL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. HORSMAN, in answer to Mr. STAFFORD, stated that on Wednesday he had voted for the second reading of the Tenant-Right (Ireland) Bill merely as affirming the principle of the measure, but the Government would not go further in its support.—At a later period of the evening, Mr. MOORE put a question to Mr. HORSMAN respecting this explanation, to which Mr. HORSMAN was proceeding to reply, when, having commenced a narrative, the object of which, he said, was to show the circumstances and conditions under which that bill had been brought forward, he was stopped by the SPEAKER, who put an end to the discussion on the ground of irregularity.

#### MR. CRAMPTON.

Lord PALMERSTON (replying to Mr. DISRAELI) said that he had received information indirectly of the fact that Mr. Crampton had received his passports, and had quitted Washington for Toronto; but nothing had been received from him as yet.

#### THE NAVY AND COAST-GUARD SERVICE.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER asked if there were any objection to lay on the table of the House certain returns relative to the reductions made in the navy and coast-guard service on the conclusion of peace?—Admiral BERKELEY, in the absence of Sir Charles Wood, replied that it would be very inconvenient to give those returns at present.—Sir CHARLES NAPIER then gave notice that on Monday, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, he would move for the papers which had been refused.

#### EDUCATION OF OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT brought before the notice of the House the subject of the education and instruction of officers in the army. His motive for doing so was that for the first time he observed the omission from the estimates of any vote for this purpose, and he wished the House to express its opinion on the matter. We have at this moment an admirable opportunity for creating *de novo* a peace establishment which should be free from the errors of that which was too hurriedly called into existence at the period of the last peace. At that time there existed a strong feeling of animosity against the troops; in 1816 was presented the London petition, protesting against the maintenance of an army as incompatible with the constitution, injurious to the prosperity of the country, and tending to sap the very foundations of civil liberty. So strong was the feeling, and so deeply did its effects impress themselves on the mind of the public men of that day, that

the Duke of Wellington, when he (Mr. Herbert) urged the necessity of having men together in an encampment for the purposes of discipline and instruction, refused his assent to such a plan. No doubt the Duke was swayed in his decision by the recollection of what had taken place at the close of the former war; for, in giving his determination, he said, "Depend upon it, the only way to maintain an army in this country is to keep it out of sight." He (Mr. Herbert) believed that the unpopularity under which the army no doubt formerly rested, arose from the fact of its having been used as a police force in the quelling of disturbances which had occurred at periods of discontent. He regretted that an opportunity had been lost at Aldershot of instructing the men in matters of contrivance and resource, in which they are deficient. He did not desire that the army should be augmented—he should object to such a thing; but that, instead of scattering our forces, we should collect them into divisions and brigades, in order that they might be exercised in military tactics. In making reductions, he thought the Government should not effect them in those corps where education is at the highest. He did not wish to cast any aspersions on the army as it now stands, for he thought it had done wonderful things; but it might be improved, and without extravagant expenditure. It appeared from the information of military men who had been in the Crimea that, although in some matters the English army there was inferior to the French and Turks, it stood first, beyond all comparison, in respect of arms and accoutrements. But the men were not sufficiently able to help themselves. A mistake, in his opinion, had been made in taking the two additional inspectors of the regimental schools from the War Office, instead of choosing them from among military men. At the risk of infringing the rule which warns a private member not to propose a plan to the House, he would make certain suggestions. These were—that the school at Carshalton should be abolished; that the age of reception at Sandhurst should be fixed at sixteen instead of thirteen, the term be reduced to eighteen months or two years, and the curriculum be rendered more practical than at present; that the pupils should afterwards be educated in various branches of military knowledge at various localities; that there should be one uniform system of examination in the army, according to the Duke of Wellington's suggestion; that there should be a board of examiners; that for staff officers there should be a staff school (such as that which had been established by the late Duke of York, but which had been discontinued, though it cost only 5,080*l.* a year); and that each officer seeking appointment on the staff should remain a year in each branch of the service. Such was his plan; and he trusted that Government would think fit to adopt it.

Mr. FREDERICK PEEL explained that the vote had been omitted from the present estimate on account of the previous votes remaining unappropriated. Government had certainly done less in the way of improvement for the officers than for the men; but Ministers had now under consideration improved plans of examination for several branches of the service. These matters could not be resolved upon in a hurry. A committee of eminent officers had been sent abroad to examine the military plans of other countries. The report of that committee would be received in a few days, and its contents would meet with due attention. He could not, of course, follow all Mr. Herbert's details, on account of their voluminousness; but he disputed the advantage or justice of adopting an exclusively educational standard, and of applying it to the whole army without reference to circumstances. Still, he had no doubt some of the suggestions might be found advantageous; but Government could not commit itself to adopt them.

Mr. ELLICE urged upon Government the necessity of immediate decision in matters involving the professional efficiency of officers.—Sir DE LACY EVANS had pleasure in acknowledging the improvements recently introduced by the War Department, and hoped an extension would speedily take place, for he could not but regard the state of military education as being still very unsatisfactory. It was true that a high scholastic test was not necessary; but that was a very different thing to giving a commission to any stupid person who has 500*l.* or 600*l.* in his pocket.—Colonel DUNNE complained that the Government, so far from progressing in the cause of military education, had positively retrograded during the past year. One great cause of inefficiency in the staff arose from the fact that professional attainment is no security for promotion.—Mr. RICH, Lord HOTHAM, and Lord GODERICH, having made a few general remarks upon topics connected with the subject,

Lord PALMERSTON thanked Mr. Herbert for the able and clear way in which he had explained his views; admitted that it was the duty of Government to use its utmost exertions for improving the condition of the army; and assured the House that Ministers were deeply impressed with the great importance of coming as soon as possible to some satisfactory arrangements on the subject.

#### SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when several votes were agreed to, and one (*viz.*, 6,912*l.* for furnishing the British embassy houses abroad) was withdrawn, that it might be examined by a select com-



Russia, and, failing to succeed, left an enslaved fatherland, we did it for no less an object than national independence. Those who since joined our ranks did it in the same spirit, and adhered to our declaration. We then fulfilled a duty, not anything to be pardoned; and we could not now, without renouncing our country's claims and calumniating the martyrs of her cause, accept the title of pardoned rebels. If there be any Polish refugee who does it, let him be disowned by us as a deserter of his country's sacred and imprescriptible rights."

The amount of the New Russian Loan is estimated at 500,000,000 francs in a four per cent. stock. It will be redeemable by means of a sinking fund of one per cent., and secured on the revenue of the Customs.

When the Emperor Alexander went to the Crimea, he found, to his extreme astonishment, that the road through the government of Cherson had only been constructed for a few versts, although the supposed outlay for the whole road had long been paid by the state. The roadmaker has been arrested.

The Russian diplomatic bodies in Europe are to undergo the following modifications:—Baron Budberg, now in this city, will be removed to Vienna; Baron Brunow, now in Paris, will fill the post of Ambassador at Berlin; and Prince Dolgorouki, ex-Minister of War, will proceed to Paris.

A steam squadron, consisting of one liner of 96 guns, two frigates, and two corvettes, is being fitted out, and will leave Cronstadt almost immediately for Palermo, whither the Empress Dowager repairs for her health.

## ITALY.

Cardinal Antonelli is preparing a reply to the memorandum of Count Cavour and to the speech of Lord Palmerston, which the Pope has caused to be inserted in the *Giornale di Roma*. The Cardinal is collecting for the purpose a number of administrative and statistical documents, and the whole is to be forwarded to Paris by Cardinal Patrizi.

There has been a diminution in the Kingdom of Naples in the export duty on oil; but the concession has come too late. Six months ago, the oil, thus diminished in price, would have found a market in England; but, the oil of other countries having since been brought up, the commodity now stands in the English markets at a less price than that from Naples could be vended at, even with the reduced duty.

An English Protestant lady, who recently lost a daughter at Rome, desired to have cut on the tombstone the verse from St. Matthew, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see the Lord;" but an officer connected with the censorship, having obtained information of this, ordered that the latter half of the sentence should be omitted, as he said it was neither right nor just that heretics should "see the Lord."

The Government of Rome is reported to have refused to listen to the proposal made by England and France for secularizing the Legations.

John Baptist Ruggieri, a Florentine shoemaker, now lies in prison on a charge of professing Protestantism. Even in Sardinia, this species of religious tyranny is allowed to exist. Joseph Jacquet has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for speaking "blasphemously" of the Virgin Mary; that is to say, for believing that she bore children after the birth of Jesus.

## SPAIN.

The Spanish Cabinet has lately held several councils to decide on the course to be pursued with respect to Mexico. There is every reason to believe that Spain will declare war against that Republic, should the latter refuse to execute the stipulations of the treaty of 1853 in favour of the Spanish subjects whose claims were recognized by the Mexican Government and confirmed by a Legislative vote.

The Minister of Finance has presented to the Cortes a project of law, in virtue of which horses and mules lately purchased in different provinces of Spain by the English Government, and about to be sold at Gibraltar, will be readmitted into the kingdom free of all duty, provided the buyers be Spanish subjects.

M. Escosura, the Spanish Minister of the Interior, has fulminated a circular against two or three Protestant pamphlets which have made their appearance at Cartagena. Her Majesty, the minister says, has heard "with painful surprise" of the existence of these pamphlets. The fiscal procurators are ordered to prosecute all parties concerned with the utmost rigour of the law.

The *Gazette* publishes the speech delivered by M. Waldkirch, on demanding, in the name of the King of Greece, the hand of the Infanta, sister of the King of Spain, for the heir presumptive to the crown of Greece. The demand was made at an audience given by the Queen, and to which her Majesty gave a satisfactory reply.

The Cortes have just declared unanimously that they are well pleased with the financial operation which the Government has effected for the redemption of the 200,000,000 of the floating debt.

## STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports for the week ending last Saturday show a tendency to dullness which has been only partially checked by the reduction in the Bank rate of discount. The weather and the holidays have been

among the causes which have interfered with business. At Manchester, the market opened with great flatness, but there was a better tone towards the close. The Birmingham advices describe the continued disappointment as to the extent of the foreign orders for iron, and state that for the inferior descriptions lower prices are accepted. The general trades of the place, however, show an approach to animation, the colonial and continental demand being good. At Nottingham, the transactions in lace have been small, but in hosiery considerable purchases for home consumption have been made. In the woollen districts there has been a diminution of activity, but confidence is well maintained, and from the Irish linen-markets the accounts are still satisfactory, prices being firm and employment general.—*Times*.

**FAILURE OF THE CRICKHOWELL BANK.**—A petition for adjudication of bankruptcy has been filed in the Bristol district Court of Bankruptcy by Messrs. P. and J. G. Price, solicitors of Abergavenny, against Mr. George Worrall Jones, of Crickhowell, Breconshire, banker. The act of bankruptcy was a declaration of insolvency, and the petitioning creditor was Mr. Joseph Hart, of Abergavenny, whose debts amounted to 170*l.*, being the balance of a deposit account kept with Mr. Jones. The act of bankruptcy, petitioning creditor's debt, trading, &c., having been proved, Mr. Whitehead, the officiating registrar, adjudicated; Mr. A. J. Acraman was appointed official assignee, and Mr. Henry Turner messenger, to the estate. The bank was not a bank of issue, but of deposit, and did a considerable amount of business in discounting.

## IRELAND.

**THE POLITICAL EXILES.**—Mr. John Dillon, Mr. John Martin, and Mr. Kevin O'Doherty, who were expatriated for the part they took in the disturbances of 1848, have just arrived in Ireland, availing themselves of the recent pardon.

**REDUCTION OF THE RATE OF DISCOUNT.**—The Directors of the Bank of Ireland have reduced the rate for bills from 6 to 5 per cent., and the charge for loans on the security of stock from 6 to 4½ per cent.

**MR. JAMES SADLER'S ESTATES.**—The case of a petition for the sale of Mr. James Sadler's estates on foot of a judgment for 10,000*l.* was mentioned in the Irish Court of Chancery on Saturday, the petitioner being Mr. Padwick. On behalf of Mr. Sadler, it was suggested that, as a very important question would arise under the Bankers Act as to the maintainability of the suit, his Lordship should not direct the usual summary reference. The Lord Chancellor, however, thought it would be more convenient that the matter should go in the usual way before the Master in the first instance, and then, if necessary, come before him by way of appeal. He would not, however, send it to Master Murphy, but to some other Master.—*Daily News Dublin Correspondent*.

**THE TITHEBARY BANK.**—In the discussion of the affairs of this bank, a few days ago, the Master of the Rolls observed:—"It appeared in the course of the proceedings that for the meeting of December, 1854, a balance-sheet had been prepared, setting forth the accounts of the bank for the preceding year; that this was prepared with statements which were totally incorrect, for the purpose of laying before the meeting a flourishing account of the concern; that at a subsequent period, when John Sadler was about getting the shares transferred or sold to the English shareholders, he got prepared another balance-sheet, giving a still more flourishing account of the same period, and in which it appeared that the paid-up capital of the company was 100,000*l.*, instead of 40,000*l.* as it actually was, and that the net profits for the half-year had actually been only 4000*l.* odd." Mr. Lawless handed in the original document from which the balance-sheet was prepared, in the handwriting of John Sadler, and it appeared from the affidavit of Mr. Kelly that that document was handed to him (Kelly) with instructions to have the fraudulent balance-sheet prepared, as set out in the document; it was afterwards so prepared, and shown to the English creditors.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST STEAMER FROM ST. PETERSBURG.**—The screw steamship *North Sea*, Captain Marshall, arrived at Hull on Saturday morning from Cronstadt, with a full cargo of flax, hemp, linseed, tallow, and iron, and twelve passengers. The *North Sea* was the first steamer from England, at Cronstadt, at which port she arrived on the 17th of May. During her stay at Cronstadt, she was visited by the Grand Duke Constantine, attended by his suite. He minutely examined the ship and machinery, and expressed himself highly pleased.

**MILITARY FRACAS AT PLYMOUTH.**—Some rather serious hostile encounters between the Royal Marines and the Limerick Militia, who are about to leave the town, have taken place at Portsmouth. The disturbances after a time were checked; but some of the men were injured, though not severely, except in one instance. The cause of quarrel is not stated.

**A JESUIT IN THE ITALIAN LEGION.**—"We are informed," says the *Malta Mail* of the 23rd ult., "that the Rev. C. Grillo, ex-chaplain of the 1st Regiment of the Italian Legion, has been embarked on board the

French steamer *Mérovée* for Italy. We hear that the reverend gentleman has been very mildly treated—his resignation having been accepted—as the charges against him were for attempting to cause discontent throughout the Legion, especially among the 2nd Regiment, and telling the men that they were not bound to serve, as the oath had been given them on an English Bible."

**SHIPWRECK.**—The bark *Kingston*, of and from Sunderland for Constantinople, went down at half-past six o'clock on Saturday morning, off the Lizard. The crew were saved by the fishing lugger *Betsy*, which landed them at Penzance the same day.

**LORD ALFRED PAGET'S YACHT, "ALMA,"** has been run down by the Belgian mail steam packet, *Diamond*, on her passage from Colchester to the Isle of Wight. His Lordship asserts that there was no look-out on board the steamer, which was going very fast. The captain of the *Diamond* hesitated for some time to assist the crew of the yacht; but all hands were ultimately saved. The night was clear, with bright starlight.

## OBITUARY.

**LIEUTENANT-GENERAL MACDONALD, C.B.,** of the Royal Artillery—an old Peninsula and Waterloo officer—died at Aix-la-Chapelle last Saturday.

**DANIEL SHARPE, Esq., F.R. and L.S.,** and President of the Geological Society, died last Saturday at his house in Soho-square, from the effects of a fall from his horse. He was in his fifty-first year.

**CAPTAIN BAGUE.**—The death of this veteran officer and companion of Nelson is announced. Captain Bague served at the battle of Trafalgar, and previously in other engagements with other immortal captains.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen on Thursday received at Buckingham Palace the various congratulatory addresses on the Peace.

**IN RE BANKHEAD'S SETTLEMENT.**—A petition was on Saturday presented in the Vice-Chancellor's Court, praying that the assignees of Sir John Dean Paul might be ordered to transfer to the present trustees of the marriage settlement of Mr. and Mrs. Bankhead a policy of assurance for 2000*l.* effected by Sir John Dean Paul upon his own life in the Rock Assurance-office. Sir John Dean Paul was surviving trustee of the settlement made upon the marriage of his sister with Mr. Bankhead, which was dated the 14th of December, 1825. He had received a considerable amount of property as trustee, and had omitted to invest a sum of 4000*l.* This sum had been retained in his hands, and interest at four per cent. was paid upon it. In August, 1848, Sir John Dean Paul signed a paper, stating that, in the event of his death, the amount of two policies of insurance, for 3000*l.* and 2000*l.* respectively, were to be applied to the repayment of the 4000*l.* By the present petition, it was sought to recover the policy for 2000*l.* from the assignees of the bankrupt. The assignees contended that the policy was property which, by the bankruptcy, had effectually passed to them. The Vice-Chancellor decided in favour of the petition.

**THE NORWICH YARN COMPANY.**—The affairs of this company have been for some time in the Rolls Court. His Honour, in giving judgment on Saturday, expressed his regret that a company which had been formed for so excellent a purpose as finding employment for the poor of Norwich should have been so injudiciously managed that, after the expenditure of all its available capital and the contraction of a large debt, it was still compelled to go to that court to be wound up, and have the relative contribution of its directors and shareholders declared. The company was formed in the month of August, 1834, with a capital of 30,000*l.*, and its object was stated by its deed to be "the teaching of the poor of Norwich how to spin wool into yarn." The company was carried on with varied success for sixteen years, but in the year 1851 came to an end, having expended all its paid-up capital and incurred a debt of 12,000*l.* to its bankers. After some litigation, a question arose as to the liability of the shareholders; and his honour now decided that they were equally liable in proportion to their shares with the directors for the *bond fide* debts of the company, and that the directors had been guilty of no fraud or wilful mismanagement, as alleged, that would give shareholders exemption from such liability. The directors also were entitled to be repaid any money they had personally paid to the bankers, and an order must be made to that effect.

**TRANSPARENT COXCOMBERY.**—No. 7, Belgrave-square, the residence of John Collett, Esq., late M.P. for Athlone, exhibited, on Thursday week, a transparency, ten feet by seven, with a mourning border a foot wide, bearing the following inscription:—"In Mourning for a Disgraceful Peace, the Certain Result of a War Disgracefully Conducted."

**THE FIRE AND LOSS OF LIVES IN SOHO.**—An inquest has been held on the bodies of the two children who perished in the fire in St. Ann's Court and Wardour Street, Soho, during the peace rejoicings on the night of Thursday week. The jury returned an open verdict, and added a high eulogium on the conduct of a police constable and a fireman who assisted in helping the inmates.

**A FEARFUL EMBRACE.**—Patrick Haggarty, a young Irishman living at St. Philip's, Bristol, while romping with some of his countrywomen, ran after a girl who was engaged in sewing, and embraced her. A needle which was in the breast of the girl's gown entered the cavity of his chest, and broke short off, leaving a portion in the muscles. Haggarty immediately felt sick and faint, and was taken to the infirmary, where, in order to prevent inflammation of the heart, the outer flesh was cut through, the surface of the heart laid bare, and the fragment of steel drawn out with the forceps. The young man, though not entirely out of danger, is progressing favourably.

**THE BISHOPRIC OF CHRIST CHURCH, NEW ZEALAND.**—The Rev. H. J. C. Harper, M.A., Vicar of Mortimer, Berks, has accepted the Bishopric of Christchurch, in the settlement of Canterbury, New Zealand. He will be consecrated in England towards the end of July.

**STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.**—It has been intimated to the friends of Mr. Bates, that, in consideration of his position in the bank being little more than that of a clerk, a mitigation of his punishment may be expected, though his immediate release from prison is not likely to take place.

**THE WEST INDIES.**—Orr, alias the "Angel Gabriel," the ringleader of the Demerara riots, has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment with hard labour. He is of a most excitable temperament, and it was with great difficulty that his friends prevented him from conducting his own defence. An attempt had been made to set fire to the house of the Attorney-General; but fortunately it was discovered in time to enable the family to escape.

**ALLEGED RETIREMENT OF MAZZINI FROM PUBLIC LIFE.**—The *Risorgimento* of Turin, of the 30th, states Mazzini has issued a circular to his agents, declaring his intention of withdrawing entirely from politics, and leaving London for New York, or some other city of the United States. His agent at Turin, Advocate Bettini, has been instructed to sell the property he possesses in Piedmont.

**STARVATION AT CAPE VERDE.**—The people of the Cape Verde Islands (more especially those of St. Antonio) are dying by hundreds of starvation, owing to death resulting from a want of rain, of which none has fallen for three years. It is anticipated that at least one-half of the population (at present calculated at 30,000) will perish.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 7.

### LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT. THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

LORD DENMAN called the attention of the House to the misrepresentations and unwarrantable statements of the press of the metropolis generally, and of a leading journal in particular. He was made the subject of vituperation, especially when he came forward to contradict a statement made by that journal that Lord Rokeby was unfitted for that position to which he was appointed in the Crimea. He did not care what the press might say of himself; but the system of misrepresentation and vituperation was operating most injuriously to the interests of this country in America, France, and the continental countries generally. He trusted that the press would take warning, and that the good sense of its conductors would induce the adoption of a more discreet and truth-telling system.

#### MURDER BY WOMEN.

In answer to LORD ST. LEONARDS, EARL GRANVILLE said that it was not the intention of the Government to introduce any bill for abolishing the punishment of death in the case of murder by women. Punishment had indeed been commuted in two recent instances; but those cases were dealt with on their own peculiar circumstances.

#### APPELLATE JURISDICTION OF THE HOUSE.

On the motion for the third reading of this bill, LORD DENMAN moved its rejection.—A discussion followed, and the third reading was carried by a majority of 44 to 4. The bill passed, and the House adjourned.

### THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### MANNING THE NAVY.

In answer to Sir G. Tyler, Sir CHARLES WOOD said that the subject of the ready manning and equipment of the navy in times of emergency was under the consideration of the Government.

#### THE AMERICAN QUESTION.

Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON put a question to the Government on the subject of our relations with America. He alluded to his having postponed his motion on the subject of Central America in consequence of the preceding negotiations; but since then grave events had occurred, and though he did not wish to believe that our Minister had been dismissed from Washington, yet, as General Walker had been acknowledged by the President of the United States Dictator of Nicaragua, as American vessels of war had been sent to Greytown, as everything threatened an invasion of the Mosquito territory, and as there was a probability of a war between England and America, he would not do anything tend-

ing to promote such a state of things. He therefore should postpone his motion. But, as all discussion in Parliament had been delayed for the purpose of the Government obtaining an answer to a conciliatory letter sent by them to the United States, he begged to ask whether, some time having elapsed since that letter had been received, the Government had pressed for and obtained a reply?—Mr. ROEBUCK was making some observations on the feeling in this country with regard to war with America, when he was stopped on a point of order.

LORD PALMERSTON was sorry he was unable to give any answer to the particular question put to him, but he could say that the American Government was fully aware of the offer which had been made by this Government for the maintenance of amicable relations between the two countries. No instructions, however, had been given to press for a special answer to that offer, because another more practical question was pending between the two Governments. He was sure that the maintenance of amicable relations between the two countries could be promoted by the judicious forbearance which the House had hitherto shown with regard to this matter, and by not bringing on a premature discussion of matters which are still the subject of negotiation. However grave the present position of affairs might be, he hoped that the good sense of the two people would prevent any collision between the two countries. He found that, since he had answered the question put to him with respect to Mr. Crampton's having left Washington, a vessel had arrived which left Halifax on the 24th of last month, and which did not confirm the report of that gentleman's dismissal by the United States.

#### THE MILITIA.

In answer to Colonel GREVILLE, LORD PALMERSTON said that it was intended to give the men of the militia fourteen days' pay on their disembodiment.

#### THE SLIGO ELECTION COMMITTEE.

A conversation, originated by Mr. DUNCAN, took place on the subject of the proceedings of the late Sligo Election Committee Petition. On the part of Mr. Somers, the unsuccessful petitioner, he accused the Committee of partiality, and denied the perjury imputed to two of the witnesses.—Mr. GEORGE BUTT, the chairman, and Mr. L. GOWER, a member of the Committee, vindicated their conduct; and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR IRELAND said that there was not sufficient evidence for the prosecution of the witnesses for perjury.

#### RETURN OF THE TROOPS FROM THE CRIMEA.

In answer to a question from Lord ELCHO, who complained of the delay in sending ships of war to bring home the troops from the Crimea, Sir CHARLES WOOD said that delay had taken place in consequence of the transports being employed in conveying the Sardinian troops, and in taking our regiments to Canada and the Mediterranean; but as ships of war as well as transports were now employed, the whole of the troops would be brought home by the 30th of July.

#### CRIMEAN SKETCHES.

LORD ELCHO inquired whether the drawings and sketches made by Mr. Simpson in the Crimea would not be bought for the nation as memorials of the late war.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said the drawings in question were very interesting and admirable, but not of such a rank in art as to justify their being added to the national collection. The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, and the rest of the sitting was mainly occupied with their discussion.

### FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* writes in this day's impression:—

"I believe I am correct in stating that the French Government has used every effort to prevent those unhappy complications which have led to the suspension of diplomatic relations between England and America. The Government of the Emperor will, I understand, combine to exercise its good offices in the same spirit of reconciliation, and should the two nations be found engaged in actual war, no doubt England may reckon on the active alliance of France."

M. de Montalembert has complained in the Chambers that the official report of his speech on the new press tax was garbled, more especially in those parts which referred to the mania of speculation. One of the non-reported phrases of M. de Montalembert, which fell like a thunderbolt in the House, is said to have been: "*Ces fortunes scandaleuses, faites sans travail, sont également sans honneur.*"

The Emperor has returned to Paris from Lyons. The rain is again descending, and the floods grow even more alarming.

### AUSTRIA.

The text of the Austrian circular on the Sardinian question, of which we have given an outline in the body of this day's paper, has been published.

**THE CONVICT PALMER.**—The Rev. Thomas Palmer announces "An Inquiry into the Charge of Lord Chief Justice Campbell, on the late Trial of William Palmer, Illustrative of its Dangerous Tendencies as Destructive to the long-enjoyed Rights and Privileges of all British Subjects."

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**STAFFORD.**—We have received several communications with reference to the case of William Palmer, which press of matter does not allow us to publish. They are uniformly directed, if not against the verdict against the execution of the sentence.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1856.

## Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARSLOE.

### AMERICA.

ASSUMING that Mr. CRAMPTON has been dismissed—though no official report of that circumstance has been received—there is no ground of war with America. When the British minister in Spain was, a few years ago, requested to leave Madrid, Señor ISTURITZ took his departure from London, after an intimation from the Foreign Office, and the relations of the British and Spanish Governments were not materially disturbed. There is even a doubt, in the present instance, whether the dismissal of Mr. DALLAS from the Court of St. James is a necessary consequence of the dismissal of Mr. CRAMPTON from the Court of Washington. He may remain without a compromise of dignity on either side. We believe that diplomatic history supplies numerous precedents for such a course. It would be almost the first conciliatory step adopted by the CLARENDON cabinet. Not to insist that Mr. CRAMPTON's successor should be named immediately—a legitimate punctilio might prohibit that—it does seem practical to heal the miserable dispute of the PIERCE and PALMERSTON administrations without the interrupting of friendly intercourse between the countries concerned. Of an armed conflict we do not speak. It is inconceivable. There is, no doubt, a certain uneasiness in the public mind. But this has been produced by the reckless violence of the press. Some journalists, not content with throwing every imaginable form of insult at the United States Government, taunt the people with the limitation of their military and naval forces, and never cease comparing our Spithead show with the uncommissioned marine of America. These are the delirious writers who desired to prolong the Russian war because our floating batteries were prepared and our breaching artillery loaded.

When LORD PALMERSTON was questioned last night as to the state of the American dispute, he avowed that the Foreign Office had received no positive information of Mr. CRAMPTON's recall. The official intelligence in the affirmative had arrived from Halifax, dated the 22nd of May, while intelligence from New York, dated two days later, neither confirmed nor contradicted the report. Taking advantage of this absence of official information, the Premier eluded the subject, alto-



gether, and, we are inclined to believe, had any other member of the Government, in the House of Commons, desired to be more explicit, it would not have been in his power. We do not think that the real state of matters is known to the general body of the Cabinet—to the Duke of ARGYLL, or Lord GRANVILLE, for instance.

Lord CLARENDON's last despatch does not appear to have had an effect, in America, favourable to the pretensions of the British Cabinet. On the contrary, the unequivocal contradiction of Mr. CRAMPTON's statement by Mr. CASS, Mr. CLAYTON, and Mr. MARCY, leaves little doubt which side of the question has been supported, in good faith, by fair avowals, and which by unworthy and unaccountable prevarications. It is very easy, and may seem very successful, to argue that the whole difficulty has been created, for election purposes, by the President and his Ministers. If the sense of the American nation be so distinctly against the policy of the Cabinet at Washington as is affirmed by Lord CLARENDON's advocates, what can Mr. PIERCE expect to gain at a Presidential election? It is easy, also, to let the real question slip through a concatenation of impertinent epithets applied to "PIERCE" and "MARCY;" but the point is, whether the British Government has not endeavoured, from the beginning, to defend a false position; whether Mr. CRAMPTON ought not to have been recalled for his rash and unjustifiable conduct; whether we have not incited the American recognition of General WALKER by our own relations with the agents of COSTA RICA?

We doubt whether the English public has considered the real meaning of a war with the United States. It means the cessation of British trade, to the amount of nearly 80,000,000*l.*; it means a third of our factories stopped;—what else it means we need not say; we all know what is the condition of England when trade ceases, when the working classes are unemployed, and when the Ministers are incorrigible, as well as incapable.

#### THE GREAT SECRET SOCIETY.

THIS great conspiracy has two centres, distinct and independent, sometimes opposed, but often working in harmony. The one has its seat at Paris, where projects and systems are devised; the other at Vienna, the point of union for the affiliated associations of Italy and Germany. Geographically, the action of these societies may be traced apart, but their principles are the same, and they have recognized interests in common. It is pretended, when any public reference is made to the secret operations of this political league, that they tend only to counteract the influence of other occult combinations; but their real object is to assign the entire management of continental Europe to two or three governments, to neutralize, altogether, the policy of the secondary states, to constitute and preserve a vast uniformity of despotism.

The rapid manifestations of this policy, since the close of the Russian war, attract little notice in England. But they assume an alarming aspect when considered in connexion with the known designs of the French and Austrian Governments. Already, in spite of the patriotic ejaculations of VILAIN QUATORZE, LOUIS NAPOLEON has forced on the Belgian Government a scheme for abridging the liberties of the press. An ominous reaction is visible in Sardinia, where an active persecution is going on, not only against the Liberal journals, but against the freedom of religious thought. The member of a Catholic congregation has just been con-

demned to six months' imprisonment for doubting the Immaculate Conception. The proposal of a Concordat in Tuscany, and of a Concordat in Naples, with the scheme, avowed by the Austrian official press, of a Concordat in Piedmont, spreads a gloom over Italy; the Italians, so far from being animated with hope by the protocols of Paris, perceive that WALEWSKI and BUOL were there the true representatives of European diplomacy.

The Austrian plan is, of course, to revive the Holy Alliance in such a deceptive form that England may be drawn into its stipulations. The Treaty of April is the first step towards that result. It is invariably interpreted by the Vienna press, not as establishing a particular point, but as the declaration of a European policy. It professes to guarantee the territories of the Ottoman Empire, upon a principle according to which the territories and authority of *all* governments ought to be guaranteed. Austria claims the *quid pro quo*. She unites with the other powers to serve *their* object; they are morally, and by implication, bound to unite in serving *hers*. Thus Austria has gained, not a security, but an argument. But she has obtained another advantage. Her censored press is the medium of official falsifications. The people of Lombardy and Venice, of Hungary and Transylvania, are taught to believe that Great Britain and France have guaranteed the German and non-German dominions of Austria. So that our Government is made the bugbear of nations aspiring to a separate political existence. Who, in the Austrian Empire, can contradict the Austrian lie? The three Powers, it is affirmed, are agreed nowhere and never to swerve from the Conservative policy enunciated, in the name of the Triad, by the April Treaty—and that policy is in absolute antagonism to the policy of Sardinia. So clear is the Austrian view, indeed, that her recent negotiations with Prussia have had the aim of drawing Prussia into an alliance guaranteeing the German and non-German territories of Austria. In that direction the Emperor's diplomatists are not likely to succeed. Prussia, in the first place, has a traditional interest in refusing the guarantee, since, if the Austrian Empire, German and non-German, were placed under the protection of the public law of Germany, the non-German territories might claim to be admitted to the Confederation—a policy which Prussia has always resisted. Moreover, the insecurity of Austria in her Italian, Hungarian, and Transylvanian dependencies is favourable to the German influence of Prussia. To this it may be added that, as we foresaw when the Cabinet of Berlin was least popular in this country, Lord PALMERSTON's Government, in spite of its new Viennese relations, is reviving its intimacy with the diplomatists of Prussia, and seeking to restore an influence which would always be exerted against the consolidation of the Austrian authority in Italy.

What, then, is the position of Lord PALMERSTON's cabinet with respect to Italy? By the treaty of April the European authority of Austria is undoubtedly strengthened. At the same time, the avowed policy of the British Government is favourable to Italian progress. It seems to us that Lord PALMERSTON, afraid of the revolution, afraid of Austria, jealous of France, desires to play the one against the other, and imagines that the collusion of the three Powers would be less dangerous than the collusion of two. The policy of England, therefore, is at best negative; and it may be easily understood, that while England acts as the drag, and France and Austria pursue definite courses of their

own, the superiority lies with them. We follow the trail, and watch, and perhaps interrupt, but Europe gains nothing from our intervention. We do nothing but repeat the hypocrisies of TRAPPAU and LAYBACH. Meanwhile, the secret association of the French and Austrian Governments threatens to take the form of a conspiracy against all that remains of political liberty, of national independence, of religious toleration in Europe. This plot, among the most stupendous ever conceived, has the apparent sanction of the British Cabinet, and it is the more menacing because it pretends to be based on the principles of peace, conciliation, and humanity. Suppose the military powers agreed to establish arbitration as the method of settling the disputes of Governments, what is the effect? Nothing as regards the military Governments themselves, since they, the parties to the contract, may dissolve it at any moment. But, as regards the lesser states, it amounts to a confiscation of their political rights. Under these circumstances, what becomes of the national existence of Sardinia, of her Italian nucleus, of her army? Her independent action is prohibited. And this is the result of the war that was to set free and civilize. France and Austria undertake to manage the Old World; England accepts an ambiguous share in the business; Russia and Prussia are invited to join. A suspicious facility of concession has been exhibited by the Belgian and Sardinian Governments. The French Imperial Terror, we may infer, has extorted from Belgium the flattery of surrender. But why has the scourge been restored to the Jesuits of Turin? Why is the code of CARAFFA resorted to by the religious reformers of Piedmont to enforce respect to the amazing farce enacted last year at the Vatican?

What we witness now, as the sequence of the Russian war, is the consolidation of despotism in Europe. Two vast parties divide the Old World—the populations and the Governments—which are more completely at enmity on every social and political ground than formerly. We, in England, believing all the time that we are the champions of the oppressed, blink at the future, and subside into repose, because gold and pearl fire, red and green lustres, and a milky way of light in the London basin saluted the Peace of Paris under our watery May moon.

#### THE SERVICES OF THE ARMY.

FRESH from the blazes and splendour of last week, it would ill become the British people to forget their army. Services have been rendered and they should not fade into the misty obscurity of votes of thanks, or be lost in the effulgence of variegated fire. The Treaty of Paris was preceded by the deeds and endurance of the soldiers of the British army; that the treaty was not more hurtful to Russia and beneficial to Europe, that it did not consecrate in some way the principle of constitutional and national freedom, is not the fault of our soldiers. They fought and died on the bleak plateaux of the Crimea, and in the trenches before Sebastopol; they were prepared to carry their colours to Nicolnieff or to Warsaw; they were as ready to do their duty in the spring of 1856 as in the autumn of 1854. The disabled should hold a high place in the hearts of our memories, and the living should stand in the van of our affection and solicitude.

It is, indeed, time to recal the deeds that have been accomplished in two short years by the British army. They have done much, but they have suffered more. It was not their fault that at the outset of the war they were only a "band of brave men." It is not

their fault that a system of wasteful rather than inadequate expenditure, that a system of purchase and of favouritism, that a system which made education of no more avail than the absence of it, had deprived them of the benefits of skill, experience, and the habits of war. The general faults and follies of the campaigns in the East arose from a national neglect of the army. Engaged in a constant struggle with gigantic abuses—the legacies of Tory administration—the army was forgotten, or, if remembered, it was shut out from the national sympathies because it had become associated with the oppressions of “the good old times of Church and King.” Left to itself, it became a kind of close corporation, and while the Duke of WELLINGTON lived, none of its abuses could be removed. By degrees, the organization which he gave he permitted to die out, and it is one of the stains upon the reputation of the Duke that he did not insist upon keeping up the army in an effective state. When the war broke out our troops were all over the world. They were caught up where they could be found, and were thrown upon the Turkish soil as fast as they could be gathered from the four winds. There were the men—a finer body of regiments than ever England sent to assert her policy in any era of her history. But where was their organization? They had no efficient staff—the brain of an army; they had no commissariat, or only one formed of inexperienced men snatched from every quarter of the world; they had no land transport; they had no efficient hospital service; they had a mere handful of cavalry. When we remember these things, as we are especially bound to remember them now, the wonder is not that the army did not do more, but that they did not do less; not that they suffered so much, but that they did not suffer more.

Among the services rendered by the army is one of the greatest importance to England. It was said, and sincerely believed, that forty years of peace and commerce had enervated this nation; that patriotic fire had become extinct under piles of gold and bales of cotton; that the canker of peace had eaten the heart out of us. And well might such bitter comments on English life be believed at a time when all armaments were ridiculed as insane except for purposes of defence, and the doctrine was hourly and daily taught that England should sell her proud position among the nations for a mess of pottage. Two years of war, and that war against the incarnation of despotic power, has altered the tone of the public mind. The soldiers of England who stormed the heights of Alma and defended the heights of Inkerman; the gallant men who rode down that green vale fringed with Russian rifles and Russian cannon; the men who endured the terrible hardships of the winter without a murmur; officers, who like BUTLER at Silistria, and WILLIAMS at Kars, held their post without flinching—the one saving Bulgaria, the other Asia Minor—these have shown that England is still the England of EDWARD III. and HENRY V., of CROMWELL, MARLBOROUGH, and WELLINGTON. That is an important fact; but how much the more important when we reflect that every gallant fellow who fought in the East was a volunteer. Europe will not readily forget those two facts—the demonstration of our vitality in other directions than those of peace, and that demonstration by the free will of our sons.

And now that we have once more an army, what will be our best mode of recognizing its services? The best mode of proving that we value them, and value that army for them, will be by doing justice to it in all its branches; by perfecting its organization; by abolishing those unjust modes of promo-

tion—the relics of the most corrupt time in our history; by establishing military schools applicable to the whole of the officers of the army; by giving the common soldier the means of carrying on his own education in quarters; by treating him as a man, and not as a machine; by teaching him the duties of every-day life as well as the duties of the battle-field. These changes will form the best monument to the services of the soldiers of 1854-55.

Another thing we might do, some of us. The services of the British army have been almost officially decried by one of the flatterers of the FRENCH Emperor. All along we have keenly felt that Lord RAGLAN has suffered from the effects of that noble silence so becoming a soldier in the path of duty, and that our own troops have been underrated by means of extravagant praises of our French allies. We might turn the tables. Let the Government give some competent and thoroughly independent man access to the documents essential to an impartial history of the war; and let us have out in plain English a statement of what we have done, and why we were not able to do more. Justice demands that able historians should perform this service for the country and the army.

#### PALMER—AS AN ARTIST.

FOR ten days and more, hundreds of spectators sat scrutinizing WILLIAM PALMER at the dock of the Old Bailey in the morbid hope of discerning in him some sign of emotion. Some told how, under the anxieties of the protracted investigation, they saw him grow visibly thinner; others told how, as the strong-minded Chief Justice demolished, point by point, the defence set up for him, the wretched man buried his face in his hands, and presently the passion of his countenance revealed the horrors of the silent struggle through which he had passed. No sooner was sentence pronounced, than the bulletins as to his personal conduct began. The traders in gossip are now fully occupied. They are eager to know how Palmer looks—what he eats—whether he eats at all—what he says—what he does—what he feels—what he thinks. It seems so strange that the man, if he is really guilty of the enormities laid to his charge, should not betray more emotion. But in truth it would be stranger if he did.

Consider the man. In the eyes of his fellow townsmen this country surgeon had acquired a character for respectability. To most people he seemed an agreeable person—to many even gentlemanlike. He lived in his native town of Rugeley; he was admitted to its leading official society. He had soothed the pangs of many a youthful mother, and watched the sick-bed of many a first-born infant. Latterly, indeed, he had withdrawn from the practice of his profession, having betaken himself to Tattersall's and the turf.

But the society of such men as the Earl of DERBY and General PEEL did not diminish his position in the society of Rugeley. He was still regarded as respectable. And yet at the very moment when he was enjoying the good-will of his neighbours, living apparently an easy, careless life of enjoyment, he was inwardly distracted by all the passions of the gamster. Under the jovial expression of these rubicund cheeks, who could have imagined the secret history which was being transacted? For this jolly fellow was racing, betting, winning—more often losing—and encumbered with debt. To relieve himself from his obligations he was contracting more debt—selling himself body and soul to money-lenders—using the hand of his own wife (he himself confessed it) to forge

the name of his own mother on bills of acceptance for thousands of pounds, knowing at the very time that nothing but a lucky cast could make him to discharge those obligations, which, nevertheless, if not discharged, must prove passports to prison. Nor was this all. Other means were needed to satisfy his wants: and PALMER was not the man to hesitate. He had a wife and a brother. Money must be had. He insured their lives. His brother was fond of liquor. He hired a wretch to lead him on to fatal excess, and death soon overtook him. His wife was his slave—to be coined into cash. As a medical man he might himself minister to her ailments. She must die. Her husband—so will the legend for ever run—will himself conduct her to the gates of death. He seats himself by her bedside—with his own hand he tenderly administers the poisonous drug—writes down his grief in his private diary—watches the vital power of the poor creature slowly evaporate under his fatal skill—consoles his wounded spirit for her fortunate loss at the very steps of the altar—and then gathers in the golden harvest of deliberate crime. This surely is not the man who would reveal himself to the thousand eyes of a crowded Court of Justice. He had played the stakes of life and death too often and too successfully before he stood within that dock. In the last momentous scene—the crisis of his life—no weak emotion was to disturb the serene apathy of this consummate artist.

In the character of WILLIAM PALMER there is, indeed, a sort of dramatic monstrosity. He was no common-place villain. The bludgeon and the horse-pistol—the knife and the centre bit—were not his weapons. Like CÆSAR or NAPOLEON, his pawns were men. His instruments were mortal. He turned everything to his own use—his personal appearance—his professional knowledge—his mother—his brother—his school companions—his friends—the friends of his friends—postmasters—money-lenders—coroners—profligate attorneys. Yea, he could even deceive scientific doctors, and an experienced counsel of the degree of the coil and a member of Parliament. They pitied him; they laboured for him; they would fain have sacrificed their very means of living for his benefit. The man had read nature with infinite sagacity. He knew precisely what ought to be done—he knew the sort of man who would suit his purpose—he knew where to find that individual. One incident is enough. To administer poison to your friend in the bedroom of a public inn, after having once failed, needs a steady hand. But PALMER did more. For surely it was a surprising feat to summon that young surgeon JONES, the confidential friend and companion of the unfortunate COOKE, in order that he might witness the poisoning. But PALMER had studied him well. He had fathomed his weakness. JONES knew COOKE well: there is no taint of suspicion on his character. His presence at the bedside of his dying friend would surely disarm suspicion. He is the companion of COOKE, and, moreover, a medical man. PALMER summons him by letter—satisfies him, against his will, that his friend is suffering from bilious diarrhoea—administers the strychnine pills to the poor patient in his very presence—leaves him alone in the sick-room where he purposes to pass the night—lets him witness the horrors of the last struggle—and, indeed, he would have had the murdered man enclosed in a strong oak coffin, and quietly deposited in Rugeley churchyard, without one whisper of scandal or remonstrance. The unsuspecting JONES was fully satisfied. It was only the shrewd old step-father STEVENS who broke in upon



mittee on account of some incorrect charges by Mr. Albano, the architect. Considerable opposition was offered by Mr. WILLIAMS to the vote of 7,388*l.* for the expense of the police at the Aldershot camp. He contended that the soldiers should protect themselves; but Lord PALMERSTON explained that a camp always draws about it an erratic and disreputable company, whom it is necessary to keep in check by the police, in order to secure the peace of the neighbourhood.

The SLEEPING STATUTES BILL was read a third time, and passed.

The House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

### THE WELLINGTON COLLEGE.

MONDAY saw the performance by the Queen of an interesting ceremony, connected by sentiment with the name of the illustrious Duke who restored England to the rank of a great military power, and by matter-of-fact with the army which the Duke left behind him for the work of later days. On an eminence, situated midway between the village of Sandhurst and the Military College, the highest Lady of the realm has laid the first stone of an institution to be called the Wellington College, the object of which is to rear and educate the orphans of soldiers. Towards this design, 120,000*l.* have been subscribed, of which sum 80,000*l.* were in the first instance set apart as an endowment fund, while the residue has been appropriated for the erection of the building. The site has been chosen by Prince Albert. The adjacent neighbourhood is a rather bleak moorland; but wooded knolls rise here and there, and on one of them the new College has been planted. Thick groves of fir-trees protect the house and grounds from the east; the soil is gravelly; a rapid stream, rising a few miles above Aldershot, courses by; and a handsome sheet of water, designed to cover a surface of twenty acres, will be formed in the surrounding grounds, which are one hundred and twenty-five acres in extent, and command a distant view of the Sydenham Palace, Hampstead, Highgate, Harrow, and the vast, dark cloud of London, divided by the shining pathway of the Thames. The design of the edifice is a handsome Palladian elevation, forming a quadrangular block. Rows of windows run along the roof, and the whole will be surrounded with an iron railing. It is anticipated that the total expense will exceed the sum in hand by 15,000*l.*, which will doubtless be made up by subscriptions.

The weather on Monday was exquisite. The sun shone forth with a glad and unexpected lustre; a south-west wind fluttered among the trees; the country glowed forth in its young greenness; and the bright costumes of the ladies, the lines of white tents, and the thick masses of scarlet presented by the soldiers, gave life and colour to the scene. The quadrangular enclosure was covered with a white awning, decorated with flags and laurel branches; and a Turkish pavilion was erected at the south end for the Queen. The seats for visitors were erected in tiers one above another. A detachment of Grenadier Guards lined the inner circle of the enclosure, in the centre of which was erected a dais, and near it a canopy suspended over the block which was to form "the first stone."

The Queen arrived at half-past one o'clock, heralded by the voice of trumpets and cannon. Her Majesty was accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, Prince Arthur ("his first appearance on any stage," as the play-bills say), Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Regent of Baden, and a large gathering of the aristocracy. The governors of the college that is to be having ranged themselves in a semicircle, the Earl of Derby, Vice-President of the college, read an address, of which the most interesting passages are the ensuing:—"It is believed that the building about to be erected on the site on which we stand will be visible from the domain which a nation's gratitude bestowed in perpetuity on the illustrious Duke; and his descendants will have before their eyes at once a memorial of the greatness of their distinguished ancestor, and of their country's recognition of his unequalled services. It is our anxious hope that within these walls, at no distant period, two hundred orphans of officers of your Majesty's and of the East India Company's service may be lodged, boarded, partially clothed, and provided, between the ages of eleven and sixteen, with the elements at least of such a religious, moral, and intellectual education as may fit them for their future career in life, whatever that career may be; and, if not gratuitously, at least at a scale of expense far below what any other institution could afford them. The admissions will be regulated by strict attention to the claims of the deceased officer and the circumstances of the surviving parent, without requiring any further disclosure of such circumstances than may serve to show that the total provision for the family, if equally divided, would not exceed a given amount."

To this address the Queen returned the following reply, which she received from the hands of Sir George Grey:—

"I have received with sincere gratification the address which you have this day presented to me. It affords me the greatest satisfaction to avail myself of this occasion

to testify anew my warm and heartfelt participation in the general feeling of affection and veneration for the memory of the illustrious man whose name will be associated with the institution which we are met to inaugurate. That satisfaction is enhanced by the character of the monument which you propose to raise to the lasting memory of the Duke of Wellington, and also by the circumstances of the time selected for its erection. There could not be a more worthy record of a country's gratitude to its greatest soldier than a permanent endowment for the protection and education of the orphans of brave men whose lives have been laid down in the service of which he was the chief ornament and pride. Nor could there be a more appropriate time for raising such a monument to his memory. While gratefully admiring the gallantry and devotion which have been so conspicuously displayed by my army in the late war, I have deeply sympathized with the domestic sorrows and privations (the inevitable result of war) which have made so many mourners. I feel that we cannot better celebrate the re-establishment of peace than by laying the foundation of an institution, which, while it will tend to soothe those sorrows and to mitigate the severity of those privations, will hold up to the imitation of all those who share its benefits the example of a disinterested patriotism, of an unceasing devotion to his country's service, of an honesty of purpose, and of a determination in the performance of his duty by which the long and brilliant career of the Duke of Wellington was so eminently distinguished.

"I can express no better wish for my own son, who bears the name of that great man, than that he should take as his guide through life the example of one with whom it will ever be his high distinction to have been connected.

"I heartily join with you in commending this infant institution to the Divine blessing, and in praying that, with its increasing prosperity, the benevolent intentions of its founders may be fully realized."

In reading this reply, it was remarked that the Queen's voice wavered in pronouncing the allusion to her own son, and his connexion by name with the deceased Duke. The family of the late Field Marshal were also visibly affected. The Duchess of Wellington shed tears, and a touching spectacle was presented by Lord Charles Wellesley leaning forward in his blindness that he might catch every word that was being uttered.

The Archbishop of Canterbury having offered up a prayer, the ceremony of laying the stone commenced. "The stone," says the *Morning Post*, "was a massive slab of polished red granite. Beneath it was a deep recess, in which her Majesty placed a glass tube, containing specimens of the current coins of the realm, with an elaborately-engraved inscription on vellum, recording the ceremony. The stone was now covered with cement; and her Majesty, taking an elaborate silver-gilt trowel, beautifully chased with a design of the building, spread it out smoothly. The upper stone was then lowered into its place, so as to enclose the coins and scroll; the Queen struck it three blows with an ebony and ivory mallet; then, taking the silver plumb and rule, tested its accuracy, and declared it 'well and duly fixed.' As the words were uttered, the guns of the artillery again broke forth, and Lord Derby, raising his hat, gave the signal for the tremendous cheers which followed. Again the bands played, and again the troops presented arms."

The Royal party then lunched; after which, Prince Albert claimed the trowel, mallet, and plumb. A review of the troops (among whom were some regiments of militia and some of the German Jagers) followed; and her Majesty and suite left the ground a little before five o'clock. "The troops," adds the account from which we have already quoted, "then set off on their long and weary march to Aldershot, which must have tried numbers most severely. Ere they quitted the ground, it was said they had been almost fourteen hours under arms, and nearly all showed unequivocal signs of fatigue and distress." According to the *Times*, three riflemen fainted during the review, and it was asserted that one fell dead on the field.

A STRANGERS' HOME FOR EAST INDIANS.—Prince Albert, on Saturday afternoon, visited the West India Dock-road, and laid the foundation-stone of the Strangers' Home for the natives of India, the East, and Africa. The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh was present, and, addressing the Prince-Consort in English, thanked him for the interest he had taken in the institution. In accordance with Oriental custom, *bouquets* of flowers were then presented to Prince Albert and the gentlemen of his suite by some of the more distinguished natives of India, China, and Africa, who were present. Handkerchiefs, having the elevation of the Strangers' Home imprinted on them, were also presented.—In connexion with this institution, the Rajah of Coorg has published in the daily papers a letter from himself to the President, apologizing for absence from the ceremony on the ground of ill health; suggesting a subscription in India; and regretting that, "in consequence of the denial of his just claims by a powerful corporation," he is unable to send a sum commensurate with his rank or the extent of his riches, and can only subscribe 5*l.*

### CHARITABLE FESTIVALS.

FANCY BAZAAR at WELLINGTON BARRACKS.—The committee of ladies, who during the last two years have been occupied in the praiseworthy task of assisting and providing employment for the wives and children of Guardsmen on foreign service in the East, having ascertained that a nursery and infant school were much needed, wherein the younger children of the Brigade of Guards might be tended and instructed during their mothers' daily absence at work, a subscription has been opened with a view of carrying out that object, and a sufficient sum has already been collected to justify the trustees, Colonels Thornton, Keppel, Steele, Moncrieff, Kingscote, and Carleton, in entering into a negotiation for the purchase of a proper site for such an establishment, close to the Victoria Lodging-house for married Guardsmen. The Queen and Royal family have promised to support the institution.

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, and the ROYAL CALEDONIAN ASYLUM, had their annual festivals on Tuesday evening. In the one case, the Marquis of Westminster presided; in the second, the Duke of Cambridge took the chair. On the same day, the NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE POOR in the principles of the Church of England, held a "choral festival" at Westminster Abbey, and on the following day had its annual meeting, when the Archbishop of Canterbury presided; the MARINE SOCIETY celebrated its centenary festival; the bazaar in behalf of the HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION was opened in the grounds of the Toxophilite Society in Regent's Park; and the annual dinner of the BRITISH BENEFICENT INSTITUTION was eaten (under the auspices of the Marquis of Clanricarde) at the London Tavern.

THE GOVERNESSES' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The anniversary festival of this admirable institution was celebrated on Monday at the London Tavern; the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. The suspension last year of the annual dinner had not been beneficial to the charity, and the experiment was therefore not continued. The subscriptions on the present occasion amounted to nearly 1700*l.*

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.—The London Tavern on Saturday evening provided the annual banquet of this institution, which is designed for attending to the necessities of the diseased and infirm poor of Paddington. In the course of the after-dinner speeches, it was strongly urged that the accident ward, which is now only capable of receiving fourteen persons, should be enlarged, and that there should be an additional accident ward for women. About 1500*l.* were subscribed.

The charity children from the various free schools of the metropolis (fifty-six in number) had their usual June meeting in St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday. Among the congregation was observed the Lord Mayor of London—a fact to which, for reasons superfluous to explain, more than ordinary consequence was attached.

### THE CONVICT PALMER.

ENDEAVOURS are being made to afford Palmer a last chance by means of a further analytical examination of the body. Mr. John Smith, the convict's solicitor, has written a letter to the daily papers suggesting that a commission of inquiry should be held, with a view of testing the truth or fallacy of the theory propounded by Dr. Taylor on the trial. He argues, in the first place, that what that gentleman stated about perfect absorption, is "new and hypothetical," and totally unwarranted by experience; and, secondly, that, not having been proved by any reliable experiment, the whole theory may be false. "Thirdly," continues Mr. Smith, "if strychnine is not absorbed and decomposed, and can be found under similar circumstances to those which existed and now exist in the case of the late John Parsons Cooke, then my client will have been the victim of an erroneous conviction if strychnine cannot now be discovered in the remains of the body of the deceased. Hour after hour, I receive communications from professional gentlemen of the first eminence in direct antagonism to Professor Taylor's doctrine." The writer next alludes to the two recent cases of commutation of sentence for murder, but adds that he does not ask for pardon, nor even a commutation of sentence, in the case of his client. "I only ask," he writes, "that William Palmer's life should be spared until a commission of inquiry should test, in such manner as may be thought most expedient, the soundness or fallacy of Dr. Taylor's theory." If the result should be confirmatory of the convict's guilt, "in God's name, let the law take its course." Mr. Smith concludes by observing that, in his opinion, such a commission ought to be appointed by Government to decide whether Palmer be innocent or guilty; for, if he be innocent, it would be gratifying to know that "life had not been sacrificed to an apparent scientific dogma;" and, if guilty, although the criminal would be in no way benefited by the inquiry, it would prove highly useful to medical science.

It will be recollected that, after the charge delivered by Lord Campbell, the jury were absent from the court one hour and ten minutes before they returned, and their foreman pronounced the verdict "Guilty." From

this it may be inferred that some doubt existed in the mind of one or more of the jury which gave rise to considerable discussion before it could be removed. It may therefore be satisfactory to the public to know that such was not really the case. On their retirement, the jury-men, without discussing among themselves the subject of the prisoner's guilt or innocence, agreed that each individual jurymen should write his verdict, and place it under his hat. Within ten minutes from the time of leaving court this determination was carried into effect, and on raising the hats the word "Guilty" was found under every one of the twelve. The delay in returning into court with the verdict originated in a feeling that any suggestion compatible with the innocence of the prisoner which might occur to the mind of any individual jurymen should not be precluded from discussion by a hasty verdict.

Mr. Devonshire, the surgeon who made the second post-mortem examination of Cooke's body, has written to the papers to defend himself from the charge of carelessness brought against him by the Attorney-General and others. He admits, however, that Mr. Newton, a young gentleman who assisted him, but who had unfortunately never witnessed a post-mortem examination, punctured the stomach, and afterwards turned it inside out, in consequence of which, about a teaspoonful of its contents was lost. "With the exception of this casual puncture," adds Mr. Devonshire, "I maintain that the post-mortem examination was skilfully performed."

A petition in favour of commutation of sentence now lies for signature at various places.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY OF MARK BOYD.

THE certificate meeting in the bankruptcy of Mark Boyd took place before Mr. Commissioner Fane on Monday. After a long examination of the bankrupt,

Mr. Roxburgh (who opposed for the assignees) addressed the court, and urged that the certificate of the bankrupt should be wholly refused. The bankrupt, in his balance-sheet, represented that in 1840 he was possessed of a capital of 19,000*l*. How was that capital made up? 9630*l*. consisted of a debt owing to him by his father, and not one penny of which ever had or ever would be received. 3000*l*. odd consisted of claims upon persons who never had been, and never could be, supposed to be worth a shilling. The bankrupt, under the most favourable circumstances, could not have had a capital of more than 2000*l*. He professed to have, in 1840, shares to the amount of 5000*l*. in a company, in which shares he had sworn he had never dealt. The value of these shares was put down at a guess. The bankrupt was undoubtedly in debt at this time. He admitted that his father had only to hope for a sum of money from the United Kingdom Insurance Company for services rendered, for the means of paying his debt. It was about this time that the scheme was concocted by the bankrupt and his brother to form a bank.—Mr. Lawrence (who appeared for the bankrupt) denied that there was any evidence of this.—Mr. Roxburgh insisted that the bankruptcy was concocted by Benjamin Boyd, a man, like the bankrupt, without means. Both brothers were promoters, directors, and brokers, of the bank; they were, in fact, the head and tail of it. The shareholders did not come ready enough, and, as they could only muster a capital of 11,000*l*., they determined to issue debenture notes to the amount of 300,000*l*. or 400,000*l*. Mark Boyd, who signed those notes, now claimed a commission for selling them. All the money thus raised went to Benjamin Boyd, who took out with him 100,000*l*., the money of the shareholders, or money raised by debentures, for which they were responsible, and for which B. and M. Boyd, as directors of the bank, were trustees. It was at first thought that Benjamin Boyd had inflicted all this mischief and misery upon the shareholders; but when they found that Mark Boyd had received from him consignments, the balance of which amounted to 70,000*l*., and appropriated the same to his own uses, they could not impute all the blame to the former. Mark Boyd had only made one communication to the bank that he had received consignments, although he had received 200,000*l*. The bankrupt had opened fictitious accounts with fictitious persons. There was the firm of Boyd Brothers, and there was the Australian Wool Company, of which Boyd was the only partner. The Australian Wool Company had no better title to existence than the engraved plate of the debentures gave it. The debenture of the Wool Company had been given to the Royal Bank in exchange for the debentures, and everything had been so mixed up that it was a difficult task for any one to unravel the mystery. All that could be got from the bankrupt was that he was indebted to some one 70,000*l*., which money he had spent. He had further been guilty of falsely stating to Mr. Borthwick that his brother was indebted to him in the amount of 26,000*l*., at a time when, as was now alleged, he was a creditor for 75,000*l*. At this date, however, he was unable to address the court at the requisite length, on the ground of false entries in the books, fraudulent preference in six or seven cases, a misrepresentation to Mr. Borthwick and others, relative to expenditure. It would be his duty to press for a total refusal of certificate.—The Commissioner ordered an adjournment for a week.

## OUR CIVILIZATION.

### THE SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE.

It will be recollected that William Dugdale, a bookseller in Holywell-street, was convicted, some time ago, of selling disgusting and corrupt books and pictures, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He had been similarly convicted several times before, dating as far back as 1825; and on the last occasion some other dealers were arrested with him, at the instance of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, whose agent was a Mr. Prichard, an attorney. One of these men was an assistant at the shop of a Mrs. Elliott, and he was arrested under a belief that he was the proprietor of the shop. On the day before the trial, this man, whose name was Bosworth, was liberated on bail without any opposition from Mr. Prichard, the prosecutor. He did not appear to take his trial, and, his recognizances being estreated, he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. After this, Bosworth returned to the shop; but, though the Society and Mr. Prichard, its agent, knew that he was there, they took no steps to have him arrested. Some eighteen months afterwards proceedings were instituted against him at the Middlesex Sessions for a fresh offence, when Mr. Prichard handed up a copy of the record of the conviction of Duncombe (one of the previous defendants), but maintained silence with respect to Bosworth; in consequence of which, Bosworth was sentenced to only two months' imprisonment, while Duncombe received six months. A rule to answer these matters was obtained by William Dugdale; and Sir Frederick Thesiger, on Monday, appeared in the Court of Queen's Bench to show cause against the rule. Mr. Prichard's affidavit, which was read by Sir Frederick Thesiger, set forth that the Society had reason to believe that Bosworth was merely Elliott's shopman, and that he was a very poor man, who was desirous of getting out of the trade, into which he had been dragged unwillingly; that the Society nevertheless thought it advisable to prosecute him; that Mr. Prichard had not made any bargain with Bosworth, nor was he aware of any pecuniary consideration having been given; that Bosworth was again prosecuted when it was ascertained that he had once more entered into the trade; that Mr. Prichard had been advised by counsel that it would be better to proceed on a fresh charge; that, on the trial, Mr. Prichard did not hear any request made on the part of the Judge to know anything of Bosworth's conduct; and that Mr. Prichard had no desire or motive to screen Bosworth from punishment.

Lord Campbell (after hearing counsel on both sides) expressed his opinion that Mr. Prichard had been guilty of very improper conduct, and had exercised a discretion which he had no right to exercise. The Lord Chief Justice believed that, in a majority of such cases, the prosecutor and the culprit are found in the end to be shaking hands over some corrupt agreement, and becoming apparently friends. Still, he thought that Mr. Prichard was not actuated by any corrupt motives, and the rule, therefore, must be discharged, but without costs. In this judgment, the three other Justices (Coleridge, Erle, and Crompton) entirely agreed.

#### MURDER AT PLYMOUTH.

A MURDER has been committed on board the convict-ship, Runnymede, now lying in Plymouth harbour with convicts bound for Swan River. Corporal William Nevan, one of the local pensioners, has shot Bingham Robinson, acting sergeant-major to the same corps. Nevan was ordered by his senior officer to fetch one of the privates for parade, and while the man's firelock was being examined by Robinson, Nevan deliberately loaded his musket, and shot him from the larboard poop ladder. The shot passed through the stock of the firelock undergoing examination, and broke it in two; then, after carrying away two of Robinson's fingers, it entered his abdomen. Robinson exclaimed, "Oh, God! I am shot! Oh, God! I am dead!" and almost immediately expired. Nevan was soon afterwards apprehended, and, when in custody, stated to the police that he and the murdered man had not agreed lately, and that the latter had threatened to deprive Nevan of his pension.

An inquest has been held on board the Runnymede, the jury being partly composed of the ship's crew and partly of pensioners, when a verdict of "Wilful Murder" was returned against Corporal Nevan.

A SERVANT'S STORY.—Henry Charnell, William Martin, John Sale, Charles Peshell, and John Tillett (all of them described as servants), have been tried at the Old Bailey on a charge of stealing between five and six hundred pounds' worth of plate from the house of Mr. Fisher, of Eaton-place. Charnell, who was butler to Mr. Fisher, told him, about seven o'clock on the morning of the 5th of April, that he had been called out from the house late at night in consequence of the sickness of his wife's cousin, and that upon his return he had found that nearly the whole of the plate had been stolen. The police were sent for, and Charnell was given into custody, when he informed the inspector that the story he had before told about the sickness of his

cousin's wife was untrue, and that he had been out spending the night with four men, one of whom was a perfect stranger to him. He said that these four men, previous to starting with him on their expedition, had assembled at Mr. Fisher's house, where they remained in the butler's pantry till half-past twelve, when, it being considered that the family had retired to rest, they sallied forth, intending to go to a ball, but, finding it was not to take place till some future day, they spent the night at various public-houses. On returning to Mr. Fisher's residence, Charnell alleged that he found the plate stolen. He then wrote a letter to a Mrs. Gilbert, soliciting her to pass for his cousin, and to confirm the story about the sickness; but she refused. Evidence was given to show that Martin and Tillett were furtively admitted to the house of Mr. Fisher on the night of the robbery; and it furthermore appeared that a letter which Charnell said he wrote to Tillett on the 4th of April, asking him to join the party, bore the postmark of March 22nd. The counsel of the different prisoners contended that nothing more had been proved against their clients than negligence of duty and mere suspicion of dishonest conduct. They were all acquitted.

POST-OFFICE ROBBERY.—Peter Francis Mogan, a letter-sorter at the General Post-office, has been found guilty at the Central Criminal Court of stealing a letter containing a sovereign. He had been in the Post-office for twenty years; on which ground the jury recommended him to mercy. The Recorder said that, but for this recommendation, he should have ordered him to be transported for life; but, under the circumstances, he should sentence him to penal servitude for six years.

ROBBERY BY DEFTY.—John Markham, a well-dressed young man, twenty-four years of age (who is known to be a skilful sharper), was tried a few days ago at the Central Criminal Court on a charge of forgery. The story was singular, as it appeared that the man contrived to eggag perfectly innocent persons to aid him in the prosecution of his knaveries. At the beginning of last February, the house of Mr. Ash, over-merchant of Upper Thames-street, was broken into, and, among the other things which were carried away were two blank cheques out of the cheque-book. Towards the latter end of the month, an advertisement for a situation, inserted by a young man named Humphreys, in the *Times*, was answered by the prisoner Markham, who directed Humphreys to call on him in Oakley-crescent, City-road. He did so, and was sent by the accused, with a cheque for 91*l*., to Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co. The cheque was not paid, and Humphreys returned to the house in company with the police-officer Forrester; but Markham had gone away. A week or two later than this—viz., on the 8th of March—the prisoner answered another advertisement (he was then living in a different neighbourhood, under a different name), and sent the young man who had advertised, with a cheque for 87*l* 14*s*., to Messrs. Hanson and Co. This was paid, and the young man, Bowles, was told to call again the following day; but subsequently he received a letter from the accused, stating that he was going out of town for a little while. Bowles's suspicions were then excited; he communicated with the bankers, and the forgery was discovered. Markham was afterwards recognized, and taken into custody, when he conducted himself with great violence. The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to penal servitude for four years. Another man, who was charged with complicity, was acquitted.

DOG-STEALING.—A Newfoundland dog, belonging to Mr. Latty, a gentleman of property residing in Gloucester Gardens, Bayswater, was lost some time back, and on the 9th of April, being about a fortnight after the loss of the dog, a man named Roberson called on Mr. Latty, saying that he came from the person who had "found" the dog, and proposing to restore it for a consideration of two guineas. In the course of conversation, he observed that he could steal any dog he liked, as often as he liked. Mr. Latty replied that that was a poor inducement to him to pay two guineas for the restoration. However, if it were really his dog, he was willing to give some remuneration, on condition that the amount should be left to his discretion. He added that he would send his groom, Thomas Mills, with Roberson to see the dog. He proposed that a policeman should accompany them. Roberson at first objected, saying, "If you bring the police into it, you shall never see your dog;" but ultimately he agreed, and a constable named Morgan was called in. Having obtained his inspector's permission, Morgan went, in private clothes, with Mills and Roberson, to a public-house called the Sugarloaf, kept by one Williams, in King-street, Drury-lane, a known resort of dog-stealers. There they found two men, Wade and Doyle, together with some others, but no man with a dog. In the momentary absence of Mills, the ruffians made a savage attack on the policeman, who was beaten, kicked, and wounded in the head with a pewter pot. Mills, on coming to his aid, was also roughly handled, though not so seriously injured. The men escaped, and Morgan was conveyed to the hospital, where he lay in a dangerous condition for weeks. On the 16th of May, Mr. Latty met Roberson in the street and gave him into custody, when a quantity of liver cut in small slices, a sheep's



tail, and a cord with a noose were taken from his pockets. Wade and Doyle were subsequently apprehended, the former at the Sugarloaf. It was acknowledged by Williams, the landlord, that the house was frequented by dog-fencers, and that appointments were often made there to give up dogs. He knew Wade and Doyle as associates of the dog-fencers, but not as being concerned in these transactions. The prisoners being brought before the Bow-street magistrate, and these facts having been elicited during various examinations, Roberson was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and the other men were fined for the assault, with the alternative of imprisonment.

**MUTILATION OF A PAUPER'S DEAD BODY.**—Edward Thomas, a surgeon by profession, but for the past twenty years a pauper in Clerkenwell workhouse, where he acted as undertaker, was charged at the police office with having sawn off the head of a deceased pauper. Evidence of a criminal character having been received, Thomas was committed for trial.

**THE "SCIENCE" OF HOUSEBREAKING.**—Five burglars—Briggs, Harrison, Brook, Tempest, and Ibbotson—have been removed to the House of Correction at Wakefield to await their trial. Four indictments will be preferred against them—for two burglaries at Haworth and Idle, and two at Bradford. No less than twenty hams were carried off in one night at Shipley. At Idle, the plunder comprised thirty bladders of lard, several stone of sugar, groceries, &c. One of their comrades, a man named Carter, has turned approver, and has dictated a narrative of the various burglaries in which they were concerned. They appear to have gone to work in a very cool, systematic, and business like manner.

**SPECTACLE ROBBERY.**—John Lassy, described as a French-polisher, was charged at Worship-street with assaulting an elderly lady in the streets by striking her on the face, and with robbing her of her spectacles. He escaped for the time, though the occurrence took place in broad daylight; but was shortly afterwards apprehended. He was remanded for a week. The offence with which he is charged has become very common of late.

**EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE.**—The east end of London has for some time past been frequented by a zealous religious minister—the Rev. G. C. Smith, better known as "Boatswain Smith"—who will persist in "holding forth" in the streets, though greatly to the obstruction of the thoroughfares. He has several times been brought before Mr. Yardley, on which occasions he has inflicted tedious discourses on the magistrate. A few days ago, he was again brought up, when Mr. Yardley, to avoid the waste of time consequent on the reverend gentleman's eloquence, discharged him, and called on the next case; but Mr. Smith was not to be balked. He is upwards of seventy years of age; and, in a weak and husky voice, began—"I am commanded by the great Captain of all, my Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, to go into —" Here Mr. Yardley interrupted him, but he contrived to struggle on—"the highways and by-ways —" Mr. Yardley: "Leave the court, Mr. Smith."

The reverend gentleman, who would not stir, though an officer was pulling at his coat, finished the sentence in spite of all obstacles—"and preach the Gospel." Mr. Yardley remonstrated with him, and again told him to go; when Mr. Smith said that the immorality of Ratcliff-highway was frightful, and that it was very cruel to interfere with him. The magistrate at length said:—"Everything in its place, Mr. Smith. I suffer no one to preach here but myself." And, amidst much laughter, the wayside "Gospeller" was hauled forth by his coat-tails.

**CUTTING AND WOUNDING.**—Charges of this nature have become very numerous at Worship-street: two were brought forward on Monday. John Ostun, a young Swedish seaman, was remanded on a charge of attacking and seriously injuring two Irish labourers with a knife in the course of a quarrel; and two Prussian seamen—James Fredericks and Frederick Silbey—were also remanded under similar circumstances.

**OUTRAGES AT MANCHESTER.**—Several bricklayers' labourers at Manchester have lately struck work in consequence of being dissatisfied with the rate of wages paid them by their employers. As many of their fellow-workmen refused to follow their example, the deserters took every opportunity to molest and assault their late comrades. One of these, a man named Cox, was repeatedly followed about and threatened, but the police protected him from harm in the daytime; at night, however, a party of men assembled in front of his house, and threw against his bedroom window a couple of boxes full of explosive matter, one of which immediately burst like a shell. After this, the ruffians escaped. Four panes of glass were broken by the explosion; but neither Cox nor his wife received any injury, as the boxes did not enter the window. On the following day, more than a hundred of the "turn-outs" went in a body to a building which is being erected at Pimhill brow, and attacked the different workmen there engaged with such violence that three of them were removed to the infirmary. Many of the others were also seriously hurt. Sixteen of the men concerned in this last affair were afterwards apprehended. They have been brought before the magistrates, and remanded.

**THE EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF DROWNING AT LONDON BRIDGE.**—William May was on Tuesday again brought up at the Mansion House on the charge (related in last week's *Leader*) of inducing a woman to throw herself, while intoxicated, off London Bridge into the river—an act which resulted in her death. Several additional witnesses having been examined in confirmation of the previous testimony, Mr. Wontner, who appeared for May, asserted that his client was a respectable man; that the girl got on the parapet, in order to play off one of those dangerous "larks" common among women of her order; that May had no idea she was going to leap off; and that he stretched out his arms to save her. A lamp-lighter, who was one of the witnesses, said he had frequently seen women get on the parapet in the same manner. The case was further adjourned. An inquest has terminated in a verdict "That the deceased woman committed an act of *felo de se*, and that William May was an aider and abettor of the act."

**MR. DUNN AGAIN.**—Mr. Dunn, the barrister well known for his persecution of Miss Burdett Coutts, applied on Wednesday at Marlborough-street for a summons against that lady. He accused her of having turned him out of eleven lodgings; of now desiring to turn him out of one he occupied in Pimlico; and of causing him to be pursued by a lunatic. Mr. Bingham, on the ground that the alleged persecution was out of his district, refused to grant either a warrant or summons. "Then," said Mr. Dunn, angrily, "I'll have a criminal information against you." And, with these words, he quitted the court.—He has also made his appearance at Westminster, where he obtained a summons against the landlady of his lodgings in Palace-street, Pimlico, his object being to recover some "important papers and letters." The landlady said that Mr. Dunn owed him rent; and the magistrate, hearing from Mr. Dunn himself that the property he sought to recover was worth one hundred pounds, said the law only authorized him to order the restitution of property under the value of 15*l*. Mr. Dunn, therefore, was again "put out of court."

**CONFESSION OF A MURDER.**—A marine in the military prison at Devonport has confessed to having taken part in the murder of Mary White, of the village of Milton, in the parish of Buckland Monachorum, about four years since, in company with the man Caber, who was tried at the time, but acquitted for want of sufficient evidence. The marine in question is named James Craze, and has been confined in the military prison for several weeks, having enlisted into the marines, after deserting from the Royal Artillery. He has appeared for some time to be labouring under a depression of spirits, and on Tuesday morning he burst into tears, and confessed to the Governor that he participated with Caber in the commission of the murder—Craze holding the woman, whilst Caber cut her throat. Her money, amounting to about 50*l*., they divided between them; and Craze lived upon his half of the spoil for some time, and then enlisted into the Artillery.

## AMERICA.

THE one step which was required to render still more ominous our relations with the United States, and to add to the probabilities of a hostile issue, has been taken by the Washington Cabinet, according to the *Morning Post*, which states that the American Ministry has directed Mr. Crampton to withdraw from the territory of the Union. This intelligence, however, is doubted by the *Globe*; and the Government, both in the Houses of Lords and Commons, speaks with hesitation as to the fact.

A message was, on the 15th ult., received by the Washington Legislature from the President, enclosing reports from the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Navy, and the Attorney-General, in reply to a resolution of the Senate in March last, also a resolution of the House, adopted May 8, both having reference to routes of transit between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, through the republics of New Granada and Nicaragua, and to the condition of affairs with Central America. The President remarks that the narrow isthmus which connects the continents of North and South America has been an object of great interest to all commercial nations, but that it is of peculiar importance to the United States, and additionally so since the acquirement of Oregon and California. "Impelled by these considerations, the United States took steps at an early day to assure suitable means for commercial transit by canal, railway, or otherwise, across the isthmus." After speaking of the treaty with New Granada, securing the right of transit, and the unsuccessful endeavour to obtain from Mexico the right of way at the northern extremity of the isthmus, by way of Tehuantepec, the President alludes to the importance of the narrower point of the isthmus for transit, and the permanent interest the United States have in the security and protection of projected lines of travel. The Government, he remarks, has often been solicited to extend its protecting power over the isthmus; but has refrained "out of respect for the rights and

interests of others." Having briefly referred to the possession by the English of the harbour of San Juan del Norte, almost immediately after the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, he observes that the frequent civil wars and revolutions of the Spanish-American States have rendered those states unable to protect foreign interests within their territory, or to defend their own soil against aggressions. England and France, he remarks, have been obliged to employ military power to enforce the rights of their citizens against the independent Spanish-American States. It would be as easy for the United States to absorb territory from Central America as it is for European Powers to do the same thing in Asia and Africa; but the Washington Government has abstained from considerations of right no less than of policy. The President adds that he has never failed to discharge the duties which he owes to himself, to his country, and to foreign Powers, and that he has not forgotten sternly to exert all the authority vested in him to repress unlawful enterprises, because they are in violation of the laws of the land which the constitution requires him faithfully to execute, because they are contrary to the policy of the Government, and because to permit them would be a departure from good faith with the American Republics in amity with the United States. The message, in allusion to the established policy of the United States in relation to the recognition of foreign Ministers, sets forth the following principles:—

"We recognize all Governments, without question as to their source or organization, or the means by which the governing powers attain their power, provided there be a Government *de facto*, accepted by the people of the country.

"We do not go behind the fact of a foreign Government exercising the actual power to investigate questions of legitimacy.

"We do not inquire into the causes which may have led to a change of Government. To us it is indifferent whether a successful revolution has been aided by foreign intervention or not; whether insurrection has overthrown the existing Government, and another been established in its place according to the pre-existing forms, or in a manner adopted for the occasion by those whom we may find in actual possession of power.

"All these matters are left to the people and the public authorities of countries respectively. During the sixty-seven years of our existence under our present constitution we have had occasion to recognize Governments *de facto* founded either by domestic revolution or by military invasion from abroad, in many of the Governments of Europe.

"The principle is vastly more important as applicable to the Central American States, where revolutions are constantly occurring. Therefore, when the Minister from Nicaragua presented himself some months since, bearing the commission of President Eivas, if the facts which are now presented had existed, he must have been received.

"The various objections to him were stated. Another Minister now presented himself, and has been received, satisfactory evidence appearing that he represents the Government *de facto*, and—so far as such exists—the Government *de jure* of that republic."

The message further states that a special commissioner has been despatched to Panama to investigate the facts of the late occurrences in that quarter. It suggests that other measures for the security of transit must be resorted to, and that, if the present constitutional power of the President be not sufficient, he will communicate to the Congress such recommendations as the exigency of the case may indicate.

Commodore Paulding is directed to proceed with a frigate to San Juan de Nicaragua, as the circumstances which have there occurred are considered to render it advisable that the American flag should be exhibited.

The American papers are for the most part averse to the step taken by President Pierce with respect to Nicaragua, asserting that the recognition of General Walker is ill-timed; and some of the journals are of opinion that his Government should have been acknowledged many months ago.

The *New York Herald* alludes to some alleged discourtesy exhibited by the French Minister of War to the three American officers who were sent on a military tour of inspection in Europe, and who, it is stated, have been refused permission, in very rude language, to visit the works of fortification in France. "It is suggested," says the writer, "that the matter ought to form the subject of a diplomatic correspondence. We do not think so. The French are the masters of their military works, and may refuse to allow them to be inspected if they choose. They are entitled, moreover, to adopt what tone they please in conversing with foreign visitors, and may exhibit grossness and ill-breeding if that is their bent." He is also inclined to think that the story, like some previous relations of a similar character, may be false; but he calls attention to the fact that "of late the tone and attitude of the French towards the United States have been far from worthy of the ancient alliance between the two countries," and that the Paris papers have abounded with libels on America such as "used to be current in England, but which experience and common sense long since kicked into the gutter and the columns of the *Morning Post*."

In the Senate, Mr. Cass has given notice that he would ask leave, when a convenient opportunity presented itself, to show that he had been misunderstood in certain correspondence by Mr. Crampton with the British Government.

The Washington correspondence of the *Tribune* reports, in reference to the dispute between Mr. Clayton and Mr. Crampton, that the latter explains the issue of veracity by saying that Mr. Clayton called on him to examine some old English maps on which Ruatan and Jamaica were designated and coloured in the same way; whereupon Mr. Clayton admitted that both were evidently British possessions. With regard to the new Nicaraguan Minister, the same correspondence says:—"The foreign legations determine not to recognize the Padre Vigil, socially or officially. M. Sartiges has endeavored to effect an arrangement between the Governments of England and the United States."

Information has been laid before Mr. Marcy, showing that Commodore Vanderbilt and Joseph L. White's party in New York had sent a special message out to inform the British commander in the waters of San Juan that the steamer had five hundred filibusters on board, and to invite his interposition to prevent their landing.

A terrible accident on the Panama railway has resulted in the deaths of between thirty and forty persons, and severe injuries to seventy or eighty. This occurred about nine miles from Aspinwall, to which place the sufferers were sent back; but, the hospital being overcrowded, application was made to the inhabitants to receive the wounded at their houses. In nearly every instance, however, the white inhabitants, who are principally hotel-keepers, refused, and closed their doors! The sufferers were then crammed into the hospital, where the scene was appalling.

The lamentable state of things in Kansas continues, and amounts almost to civil war. The pro-slavery men have proclaimed the most open hostility to the anti-slavery advocates; the town of Lawrence is in a state of siege, expecting the arrival of armed border ruffians; Governor Robinson has been arrested, and Keeder is threatened with capture; the investigating committee, appointed by the Washington Legislature, is treated with contempt by President Pierce's agents; and the prominent men of the Free State party have been indicted for treason. Governor Robinson, before his arrest, contrived to put the despatches which he was conveying to Washington into the hands of his wife, who, with great courage and heroism, made her way by an unsuspected route to the seat of the Federal Legislature. One of the main objects of the pro-slavery party is to destroy the evidence taken by the investigating committee; but they have been thus defeated.

From British America we hear that Governor Sutton has dissolved the New Brunswick Assembly, that the Council has resigned, and that the Canadian Ministry has given up office.

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

##### FRANCE.

The Universal Cattle Show and Agricultural Exhibition was opened in the Palais de l'Industrie at noon on Sunday. The building was crowded, and the show of cattle, which was very fine, seemed to give universal satisfaction.

The commercial world of Paris has been painfully excited by the failure of M. Henri Place, one of the administrators of the *Crédit Mobilier*, and until recently a member of the banking firm of Noel and Place, of Paris. The liabilities are stated at about three-quarters of a million sterling; the available assets are very small. It is believed that the *Crédit Mobilier* is involved in the loss to only a slight extent; but among the creditors are Messrs. Percire, Ernest André, Count de Morny, Frédéric Greininger, and the Duc de Galliera—all of them members of the Council of Administration of the *Crédit*.

The Emperor has left Paris for Lyons, to preside in person at the distribution of aid to the sufferers by the inundations in the south. The floods still continue, and most lamentable accounts are received from the seats of the various disasters. Houses and bridges have been carried bodily away, massive buildings considerably damaged, embankments burst, trees uprooted, cattle carried off by the tide, and a considerable amount of property lost. Several persons, also, have been killed. Large tracts of country are under water, and at Vienne all the manufactories in the suburbs are stopped by the place being inundated.

It is expected that the Emperor will leave France for Algeria about the end of the present month.

The 14th inst. (this day week) is appointed for the baptism at Notre Dame of the Imperial Prince.

The Government has resolved to remedy an abuse, repeatedly complained of by the English and American captains trading with Havre. There are but nine naval brokers or interpreters licensed in that port, of whom only four are authorized to translate English. By the Emperor's directions, the number of interpreters has already been increased at Marseilles, Bordeaux, and Nantes, and a similar measure will shortly put an end to the inconveniences the English and American captains

have to suffer from the coalition formed by the Havre brokers.—*Times Paris Correspondent.*

M. Bergougnoux, formerly the editor of the *Emancipation* of Toulouse, was lately sentenced by the tribunal of Villeneuve-sur-Lot to two years' imprisonment for having spoken ill of the Emperor of the French in a public carriage. The public prosecutor appealed against the sentence as too light for the offence, and the Imperial Court at Agen has now condemned M. Bergougnoux to five years' imprisonment and five years' deprivation of civil rights!

Count Montalembert has uttered in the Legislative Body a remarkable speech on the bill which inflicts a yet heavier tax on political journals than that which is borne by merely literary papers. Alluding to the restrictions on the liberty of journalistic comment, the Count observed:—"I admit that formerly, considering the overwhelming political excitement of the country, a moderating check was necessary. That check never sufficiently existed, but, as always is the case in France, the absence of a check has been supplied by an excess of one—and what has been the result? What has been gained? The suppression of all political life. And that political agitation which might with justice be deplored, by what has it been replaced? By the whirl of speculation: the great French nation could not resign itself to slumber, to inactivity. Political life was replaced by the fever of speculation, by the thirst for lucre, by the infatuation of gambling. . . . The real source of all that evil is the sleep of all political spirit in France. . . . At the sight of this fearful mania of gambling, which has made a vast gambling booth of nearly all France, the position of the masses which has been invaded by Socialists has felt itself more dominated than ever by the avidity of gain. Hence an unquestionable progress in secret societies, a greater and deeper development of those savage passions, which almost calumniate Socialism by adopting its name, and which have been recently well shown up in all their intensity in recent trials at Paris, Angers, and elsewhere." Admitting "the glorious situation of France abroad," the Count proceeded to remark: "It may be feared that, while everything is satisfaction and glory without, all will not be allowed to live at home which the intelligence, the heart, and the imagination of France exact. These are the reasons which induce me to regret the terms of the new bill, which tend to hamper and compress political ideas and discussions. As it is not in my power to amend it, I shall vote against it, rendering justice at the same time to the ameliorations which it contains."

##### AUSTRIA.

The *Frankfort Journal* publishes the following as the substance of an Austrian circular addressed by Count Buol to Austrian diplomatic agents abroad, in reply to Count Cavour's memorandum of the 16th of April:—"Like the Sardinian Plenipotentiaries, Count Buol starts from the principle that reforms in Italy are much needed, but, as to the means of those reforms, comes to a conclusion diametrically opposed to Sardinian policy. While the memorandum of the 16th of April seeks the causes of the state of affairs in Italy in the measures which Austria, and the Italian sovereigns who have called in that Power to their aid, have had recourse to to put down revolutionary excitement in Italy, the Austrian circular considers such a state of things as the immediate consequence of a secret and wide-spread propagandism which continues to act in Italy. Sardinia, the only Italian state, according to Count Cavour, capable of opposing a firm barrier to the revolutionary spirit, is designated in Count Buol's note as the focus of this propagandism. The Vienna Cabinet hurls back at that of Turin the accusations brought by the Sardinian Plenipotentiaries against Austria and the Italian states above-mentioned. The circular observes that it is just possible that Sardinia is working the revolutionary spirit with a view to her own territorial aggrandizement. It also points out that the barrier opposed to a revolutionary movement in Italy is not erected by Piedmont, but that it is based on the Austrian system and on foreign occupation, and attributes the bitterness of Piedmont against Austria and the above-cited Italian states solely to the obstacles which this barrier opposes to the projects which Austria attributes to Sardinia."

A "mysterious religious society" has been discovered, according to the *Frankfort Post Zeitung*, among the working men of infidel Vienna. About a year ago, the police received information that the manners of the artisans and labourers in the suburbs had undergone a great change; that they were more orderly and regular in their habits; and that, although they did not go to church, they read the Bible at home—this (strange to say in so orthodox a Papal country) not being against the law in Austria. Last Whit Sunday they were surprised by the police at a convective. The authorities then discovered that the persons arrested, who amounted in number to between sixty and seventy, called themselves "Brethren of St. John," and that they belonged to a new religious sect, which is supposed to have some connexion with the Hungarian Protestants. It is probable that a long time will elapse before the men will be set at liberty.

Hungary is in a very disturbed state from highway robbers.

##### PRUSSIA.

Berlin may be said at present to be crowded with "a mob of kings," or rather of sovereign princes and an emperor, a queen-consort and an empress-mother, grand-dukes, statesmen, and other notabilities; but it is affirmed that their visits are merely complimentary, and not political. "In addition to the members of the Imperial family of Russia, the Emperor, the Empress-mother, and the Grand-Duke Michael," says the *Times* Berlin correspondent, "there are visiting here now the Queen of Saxony, the Grand-Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the Princess of the Netherlands, Prince William of Mecklenburg, the Crown Prince of Wurtemberg, and his consort, the Grand-Duchess Olga, the Grand-Duke of Oldenburg, the Duke of Nassau, Prince Wilhelm of Baden, Prince Moritz of Sachsen-Altenburg, the Prince of Hohenzollern, Prince of Solms, Prince Windischgrätz, &c. Further, there are innumerable Russian nobles and state officials attached to the suites of the Emperor and Empress-mother, of whom I will only mention Count Nesselrode, Baron Meyendorff, Prince Gortschakoff, and Prince Woronzoff."

A very brilliant military parade took place on the 31st ult. on the occasion of the meeting of the King of Prussia and his guest, the Emperor Alexander. Sir William Williams, of Kars, dined on the same day at the King's table. He has been received with marked honour in Prussia, where he has again met with General Mouravieff. Both generals are in ill health.

The Schloss, or Royal Castle, at Berlin caught fire last Saturday night, while the King and the Russian Emperor were at the Opera-house.

The Emperor of Russia has left Potsdam on his return to St. Petersburg.

The King and his Imperial guest have met with what the *Times* Berlin correspondent calls "a very scurvy adventure, fit only for ordinary, uncrowned persons." The two monarchs were driving home late at night, in thick darkness and a pouring rain, when a droshka, "whose driver's driving" seemed like the driving of Jehu, for he drove furiously, "came foul of them, and literally poled the royal equipage, so that the King and the Emperor had to get out in the rain and mud, and pick up a vehicle where they could. The unlucky chariotier escaped in the confusion, but was afterwards arrested, only to receive royalty's gracious pardon, with a caution to be more careful in future."

##### BELGIUM.

Some transactions in the Belgian Parliament confirm the recent statements regarding the progress of free-trade opinions in Belgium. It appears that, in a debate just terminated in the Chamber of Representatives, twenty-five members out of sixty-eight were in favour of the free admission of iron of all sorts, and that a reduction of duty upon pig iron from 46s. 6d. to 18s. 7d. per ton has actually been voted by a large majority in both Houses.

The Belgian Government, in order to conciliate France, is about to introduce into the Chambers a bill for rendering more stringent the provisions of the law on the press. This "project of law" applies to three things in particular,—viz. the stamp, the signing the article with the author's name, and the power given to the law officers of the Crown to institute proceedings without the necessity of a previous demand from a foreign Government.

##### RUSSIA.

An Imperial ukase places the educational establishments of Russia under the Emperor's special superintendence. A draught plan for constituting a Board of Education, with the assistance of a committee of learned men, has been submitted to the Emperor.

General Ney has returned from his mission to St. Petersburg.

General Koimitski lately made an attack, in the columns of the *Invalide Russe*, upon the policy of Prince Gortschakoff, which led to the battle of the Alma. The latter has just replied through the same channel. This species of controversy is new to the Russian press.

The Emperor has authorized his representatives abroad to receive from those who, after the insurrection of 1830, illegally quitted Poland and the eastern governments of the Empire, petitions for a permission to return. There will be no ulterior proceedings or investigations; the civil rights of the *émigrés* will be restored, and, after three years of good conduct, they may be admitted to the public service. "From this act of pardon," says the *Warsaw Official Gazette*, "are excepted those *émigrés* who, by their proceedings have proved, or continue to prove, their incorrigible hatred towards the Russian Government." The Emperor has also granted that "the soldiers of the Polish army who, after having been transferred from the third category (that of combatants in the revolution of 1830), entered the public service, and have conducted themselves well therein, shall be admitted to the right of receiving retiring pensions, not only for the time of their actual service, but also for that which they passed in the Polish army before the revolution. This privilege will be extended to the widows and orphans of soldiers whose death has preceded this act of grace." With respect to the said "act of grace," Messrs. L. Bulewski, A. Zabicki, and S. Worcell, Polish refugees, have published in the English papers the subjoined notification:—"When, in 1830, we took up arms against



Being gifted, moreover, with a keen sight, and a lively colloquial style, she relates, with intelligence and animation, her experiences of Eastern life. An early glimpse was given her at a camp at Azerbaijan, where a Persian Highness entertained the English lady in a style that surprised her. There was the Orientalism of a tent lined with lustrous silk, and the seclusion of a canvas wall; but there appeared also a silver-tipped half-dozen of champagne, a case of Spanish wines, and a service of European plate, glass, and china. This, if less picturesque than a scene from the "Veiled Prophet," was not a blot upon the scene. However, at Tabreez, the "Arabian Nights" and Anacreon Moore seemed destined to be insulted at every step. Dilapidated streets, uncouth excavations, deaf animals, shapeless piles of unburnt clay, with here and there a trace of ornament and colour, illustrated the actual condition of the Persian cities. But Lady Sheil soon learned that modern Orientals do not devote their splendours to the sun. Brown clay is not a bad material for the builder in a hot climate. At Suleimaneeyah, a rural palace of the Shahs, she found the innumerable courts and apartments of the anderoon inhabited by several hundreds of ladies, represented in the second generation by the eighty sons and innumerable daughters of his Highness. Some of these royal princes, so extensively propagated, think it no dishonour to buy a loaf in the markets, and still less to borrow a sovereign from an English traveller. As for the princesses, Lady Sheil heard of one who had married a cobbler. However, the Shah himself lived in prodigal splendour, in his palace, surrounded not only by as many graces as Solomon, but by pictures of girls from all parts of Europe and Asia, frescoed luxuriously on the coloured and gilded walls.

At Teheran Lady Sheil visited the royal anderoon, and was invited "to take her brightness into the presence" of the Shah's mother. That lady sat on a chair, and was excessively courteous. She hoped that her guest's nose was fat, and that her heart had not grown narrow, and was altogether very affable and communicative. Here Lady Sheil of course describes the dress of a Persian lady, which she professes not to admire. Above ten pairs of trousers, each more magnificent than the other, the princess wore an outer pair of gold brocade, wide, stiff, bulky, and edged with pearls. Above the waist her attire was composed of transparent gauze, with a small velvet vest, capriciously adorned.

Lady Sheil enumerates many pleasant aspects in the life of a Persian woman. Others, of a different complexion, are indicated by the high clay tower at Tabreez, where the frail handmaids of the great are flung, even in these latter days, and the power of life and death often exercised by the husband over his wives. The women have one method of revenge—poison; and that, Lady Sheil says, is reported to be used from time to time. While her residence lasted, a young girl was strangled at Teheran for participation in political and religious conspiracy. Persia is full of sects, some professing mystic doctrines of extraordinary antiquity, while others are branches grafted on the Mohammedan stem. An illustration of Lady Sheil's remarks on the life of women in Persia is here supplied:

I went to see the Shah's half-sister, a beautiful girl of fifteen, who lived with her mother in an obscure part of the anderoon, neglected by the Shah and consequently by every one else. She was really lovely; fair, with indescribable eyes, and a figure only equalled by some of the chefs d'œuvre of Italian art. This is so rare among Persian women, that she was one of the few persons I saw in that country with an approach to a good figure. She was dressed in the usual fashion of trousers on trousers, the last pair being of such stiff brocade, that if put standing upright in the middle of the room, there they would remain. Her hair was curled, not plaited, and she was literally covered with diamonds. She was quiet in her manners and seemed dejected. She was most anxious to hear about European customs. What seemed to surprise her most was, that we took the trouble to undress every night going to bed; and she asked me, was it true we put on a long white dress to pass the night in? All Persian women are astonished at this custom, and are quite unable to account for it. They never undress at night; they untie their thin mattress from its silken cover, draw it out from its place against the wall, and roll themselves up in the wadded quilt which forms their blanket. The only time they change their clothes is when they go to the bath. If they go out to visit, they, of course, put on their best garments, and take them off at night; but generally they lie down just as they are, and even in cold weather they wear their chador, or out-of-door veil, at night.

At Isfahan she saw what Persia was in the days of its historical glory. There, consulting Chardin instead of Moore, she surveyed the city once inhabited by six hundred thousand Persians, the most intelligent and industrious, and the least courageous in the empire. The remains of vast bridges, mosques, and palaces, of bazaars and gates, of gardens and canals, attest the ancient prosperity of the capital. Its modern politics are illustrated by a "leader" from the *Teheran Gazette*, detailing the discovery of a plot and the fate of the conspirators. These are characteristic opusculæ from the Persian *Moniteur*:

"The Minister of Foreign Affairs, full of religious and moral zeal, took the first shot at Moolla Zeyn-ul-Abdeen, and the secretaries of his department finished him."

"The nobles of the court sent Sheikh Abbas of Teheran to hell."

"The artillerymen first dug out the eye of Mahommed Ali, and then blew him away from a mortar."

Lady Sheil's is essentially a pleasant volume, light, well-toned, in substance original, in style unaffected and easy. The East is faded, its colours are dim, it has been robbed of its jewels, but it is still sunny and warm, and redolent of the old romance. Lady Sheil has told us many new things of Persia, and told them elegantly and pictorially.

#### IMAGINATIVE ARTISTS.

Modern Painters. Volume IV. *Of Mountain Beauty.* By John Ruskin, M.A. Smith, Elder, and Co.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

THE general remarks on painting which Mr. Ruskin so prodigally puts forth apply with equal force to other arts. When, for example, he lays down the canon, "It is always wrong to draw what you don't see," it is a canon as applicable to the poet (and novelist) as to the painter; and one, indeed, which has been iterated in these columns with almost wearisome pertinacity. We have sometimes been misunderstood, as Mr. Ruskin will be misunder-

stood, to mean that only actual visible objects, or events actually experienced, should be chosen; whereas the vision and the faculty divine, although essentially consisting in seeing and in representing only what is seen, may be exercised upon things non-existent as well as existent. Some minds see only things visible to the physical eye, others see things with the mental eye. But no one should attempt to paint what he does not see; no one should feign to see or feel what he does not see or feel. "If," says Mr. Ruskin, "people really see these non-apparent things, they are quite right to draw them; the only harm is when people try to draw non-apparent things who don't see them, but think they can calculate or compose into existence what is to them for evermore invisible. If some people really see angels where others see only empty space, let them paint the angels; only let not anybody else think they can paint an angel too, on any calculated principles of the angelic." Alexander Smith has never seen the sea about which he writes so exquisitely; that is to say, he has never stood upon the actual shores, scenting its iodine-bearing breezes and slipping on its fucus-covered rocks. But he has seen it with his mental eye, and has painted what he saw. The truth of his vision is manifest not only in the originality and concreteness of his images, but in the spontaneous irrepressible manner with which the sea for ever recurs to his mind, insisting on his painting it. This Mr. Ruskin properly regards as the significant fact about invention. A man can easily determine for himself whether he has invention or not. "If visions of unreal things present themselves to him with or without his own will, praying to be painted, quite ungovernable in their coming and going—neither to be summoned if they do not choose to come, nor banished if they do—he has invention. If, on the contrary, he only sees the commonly visible facts, and, should he not like them, and want to alter them, finds that he must think of a rule whereby to do so, he has no invention." Unhappily, few are capable of this self-knowledge; few are strong enough to resign themselves to the fact that they are five feet eight when their desire is to be six feet. A friend of ours suggests that all the bad poets should be set to make indexes. The world wants indexes, and extremely does not want bad poets. Even should the indignant poets scorn this suggestion, they might bethink them of another, namely, to write prose, and in that prose tell only what they themselves actually have seen, felt, or thought. "Pure history and pure topography," as Mr. Ruskin says of the painters, "are precious things; in many cases more useful to the human race than high imaginative work; and assuredly it is intended that a large majority of those who are employed in art should never aim at anything higher. It is only vanity, never love, nor any other noble feeling, which prompts men to desert their allegiance to the simple truth in vain pursuit of the imaginative truth which has been appointed to be evermore sealed to them." Yes, vanity is the root of the mischief. The useful hackney wants to be thought a hunter.

How, it may be asked, is a man to know whether he is gifted with high powers unless he tries? High powers he may have, and these may be shown in every genuine kind of work; the conscientious and sagacious index maker will manifest his power in indexes, although in poems he is feeble and flatulent. How is he to know what kind of work is suited to him? By doing that and that only which he feels strongly prompted to do for its own sake. "In general," says Mr. Ruskin, "when the imagination is at all noble, it is irresistible, and therefore those who can at all resist it ought to resist it. Be a plain topographer if you possibly can; if Nature meant you to be anything else, she will force you to it, but never try to be a prophet." Never try to be an imaginative poet, a profound thinker, a fanciful creator. Be what you are, do not try to be anything. You will never remake yourself. The faculties which are in you will speak without hint from you, and no amount of trying will create them where they are absent. If you paint historical pictures because great men have painted them, and high art is a grand thing, you will daub canvas; if you write raptures about Nature because Wordsworth does, or Locksley Halls because Tennyson has stung you, you are only spoiling paper; if because Jane Eyre agitated novel readers, you, who never saw Mr. Rochester, and never were in love with your master, write Jane Eyre novels, you are wasting your time and the reader's temper. Paint what you see, write what you have experienced, and the utmost success possible for you will be achieved.

For the better comfort of the non-imaginative painter, Mr. Ruskin properly observes that it is not possible to find a landscape which, if painted precisely as it is, will not make an impressive picture. All the world ran after Mr. Anthony's picture, representing nothing but an oak tree amid ferns. It was worth a thousand imaginative landscapes. We remember being ravished with the beauty of a bit of landscape (in the park of the summer palace of Belvedere at Weimar) reflected in one of the glass globes which it is the happy fashion in Germany to place about the grounds. Here was a little bit of the park, isolated from the rest, and reflected in about a foot of glass. No sense of skill, or of "difficulty vanquished," came to heighten the enjoyment. It was a simple reflexion of reality, and by isolating one part of the landscape, and thus concentrating attention on it alone, produced what may be called the ideal of a pre-Raphaelite landscape.

In another part of his work Mr. Ruskin incidentally explains the peculiarity of even the imaginative painters, their imagination consisting not in the voluntary production of new images, but an involuntary remembrance, exactly at the right moment, of something they had actually seen. "Imagine all that these men had seen or heard in the whole course of their lives, laid up accurately in their memories as in vast storehouses, extending, as with the poets, even to the slightest intonation of syllables heard in the beginning of their lives, and with painters down to minute folds of drapery and shapes of leaves and stones; and over all this unindexed and immeasurable mass of treasure, the imagination brooding and wandering, but dream-gifted, so as to summon at any moment exactly such groups of ideas as shall justly fit each other: this I conceive to be the real nature of the imaginative mind, and this I conceive it would be oftener explained to us as being, by the men themselves who possess it, but that they have no idea what the state of other persons' mind is in comparison; they suppose that

everyone remembers all that he has seen in the same way, and do not understand how it is that they alone can produce good drawings or great thoughts." This is a long comment on the saying "Memory is the mother of the Muses." If a striking example be needed, take that of Dickens, whose memory for all visible facts and for all idiomatic expressions surpasses that of any modern writer we can name. Scenes are daguerreotyped in his memory; phrases he must have casually heard years and years ago issuing from the lips of persons among whom he certainly never lived, all lie ready at a moment's bidding, so that he can make the inhabitants of Bleeding Heart Yard speak as they do speak, and think as they think,—and this with a vividness of reality perhaps surpassing that of his description of the place in which the speakers live. Let any man try to make the Londoner speak as he speaks in the streets of London, and not in comic novels, and he will then be aware how poorly furnished with idioms must be the memory of those who think that phrases like "cos vy" or "vell you know, I says, says I, I ain't going to do it," reach the very flavour of Cockney dialect. The same storehouse of accumulated idioms is noticeable in Scott and Shakespeare.

Our rambling comment has again outrun our space, and we must reserve for next week what more we had to say on this delightful volume.

### THE MANSTEIN MEMOIRS.

*Contemporary Memoirs of Russia, from the year 1727 to 1744.* By C. H. V. Manstein. Longman and Co.

DAVID HUME first introduced this book to the English reader. The translation accredited by him was performed by persons who could neither read French nor write English, so that, by the literary public, the Manstein Memoirs were very generally neglected, and, as for the unliterary perusing public—the reflector of phosporic reputations—that is a creation of our own times. But "A Hertfordshire Incumbent," known far and wide as a patient analyst of Russian history, who has followed armies with a surveyor's level, and mapped every creek in the Pontic coasts, has exhumed the Memoirs, after a laborious collation of the London, French, and German editions. They refer, exclusively, to events which took place in the empire under the eye of General Manstein, a Bohemian by family, a Russian by birth, a German by education. The Empress Anne, attracted by his personal manners, gave him, at an early age, a captaincy in the St. Petersburg Guards. He was with Marshal Munich at the invasion of the Crimea, was wounded at Perekop, served in the defence of the lines of the Ukraine against the Tartars, and in the Finnish campaigns, and played an effective part in the politics of the imperial court. The favourite of Anne and of the Regency was not, of course, the favourite of Elizabeth. After several mortifications, Manstein entered the Prussian service, composed these Memoirs while in retirement at Potsdam, and, finally, died in an encounter with the Austrian forces in Bohemia.

His plain record abounds in materials of historical interest. He begins with the accession of Peter II., in the twelfth year of his age, and explains, with the freedom of a personal observer, the singular enterprizes of the Menzikoff and Dolgorouki families. Compilers have usually hurried over these details, which are, however, of great importance to the dynastic history of the Russian Empire. It must have given a young man, new to the mysteries of palatial intrigue, a curious impression of public life to see a boy-emperor dragged from faction to faction, carried from palace to palace, betrothed to one princess after another, sometimes hidden, sometimes lured away into the forests on a hunting adventure, as one party or the other of his guardians and advisers obtained possession of his person; lastly, to see him die, before the consummation of a loveless marriage, while physicians were disputing over his disease. During this reign, which lasted less than three years, Russia was under the government of rival families, who hoped to secure their own power by imposing conditions on the Empress Anne. The Empress Anne, however, like the English Elizabeth, dissembled at first, and only displayed her absolute policy when guarded by the troops, by the lesser nobles, and by the loyal masses of the nation, who were jealous of the Great Council of the State, and accustomed to live under the control of a single hand. They soon discovered what it was to be governed, in the name of Anne, by Biron, the scorn of the Russian and Courland aristocracy. This man, says the Memoir, the descendant of a stable-keeper, possessed neither of education nor of pleasant wit, but discreet, intelligent, and ready, and gifted with extraordinary beauty of person, reigned, with perfect despotism, during the life of Anne, and for some weeks after her death, over all the vast territories of Russia. First obliged to quit the Academy of Königsberg, in Prussia, for fear of arrest for disreputable conduct, he was next rejected at the Russian court, and spurned by the nobles of Courland. Upon the election of Anne as empress, however, we see her audacious favourite becoming Grand Chamberlain of the Empire, premier Duke of Courland—at the head of the body which had galled him by its contempt—and, in fact, Chief Councillor of the Crown. Of course the other great officers of state envied and abhorred him. Count Ostein used to say, that when Biron spoke of horses, he talked like a man, but when he spoke of men, he talked like a horse. Manstein adds that he was haughty, ambitious, insolent, brutal, selfish, cruel, unforgiving, and hypocritical. Nevertheless he had conspicuous talents, especially for conspiracy, and for arbitrary administration.

The Memoirs contain some admirable sketches of Russian society. We find in them, indeed, the originals of many anecdotes since passed from hand to hand by the adaptive bookmaker. Manstein ridicules the nobles for wearing brilliant coats and paltry wigs, for dressing gorgeously and riding in miserable carriages, for heaping on their tables a lustrous profusion of gold and other plate, while their tapestries were faded, and their furniture broken and dirty. The ladies, he adds, were on a par with the men. "For one well-dressed woman, you might see ten frightfully disfigured." Yet this arose from want of refinement, not from want of means. The countesses spent enormous sums on clothes and jewellery. Biron, conscious of his fine face and figure, sought to naturalize French elegance at the court, but was long unsuccessful, though he was much imitated by persons anxious to

rise through his favour. All classes perceived that he was the confidential friend of the empress, who dined with his family, played billiards with him, and gambled at his table. She was addicted to lively amusements, disdained operas, loved comedies, and laughed to extravagance at the antics of her buffoons. Her panegyrists have imputed it to her, as a virtue, that she disliked severity, and seldom avenged with rigour an offence against her dignity. Manstein disposes of this weak sort of flattery by observing that, however little evil, the Empress Anne did deliberately and directly, she allowed much to be done in her name. Numerous executions, some of remarkable atrocity, took place under her government. The number of exiles exceeded twenty thousand.

These details are worth repeating, because they are now, for the first time, stated in English on General Manstein's authority. His former translators, with deferential reserve, toned down the strong passages of the Memoir, omitted some paragraphs, modified others, and spread a softening tinge over the whole. For this reason, as well as on account of their desperate ignorance and incapacity, it was necessary to reproduce the book in a new and authentic form.

Manstein was not only a spectator of the events that transpired in Russia from the death of Catherine to the unsuccessful conspiracy of Batta. *Pora fuit.* He it was who aided in the seizure and ruin of Biron and of his wife. The chamberlain's great enemy, Marshal Munich, when Russia was once more under a regency, had determined to crush at once the power of Biron, and, in concert with the Princess Anne, employed Manstein to effect his capture. With twenty soldiers following him quietly at a distance, he entered the palace, and passing among the groups of servants and guards, as though he were familiar with the place, felt utterly at a loss to find Biron's room.

After a moment's thought, he resolved to keep advancing on, in the hope he should at length find what he was seeking. And so it happened in fact; for, after he had gone through two chambers, he came to a door that was locked; luckily for him, this was a folding-door, and the servants had neglected sliding the bolts at the top and bottom, so that he easily forced it open. In the chamber he found a great bed, in which the duke and duchess were lying, buried in so profound a sleep that not even the noise he made in forcing open the door had waked them. Manstein having got close to the bed, drew the curtains, and desired to speak with the regent. Upon this, both started up, and began to scream with all their might, rightly judging that he was not come to bring them any good news. Manstein happening to stand on the side on which the duchess lay, saw the regent throw himself out of bed on the ground apparently with an intention to hide himself under the bed; on which, springing quickly round to the other side, he threw himself upon him, and held him fast locked in his arms till the guards came in. The duke having at length got upon his legs again, and wanting to disengage himself from their hold, distributed blows with his fist to the right and left; which the soldiers returned with strokes from the butt end of their muskets; and throwing him down again on the floor, they crammed a handkerchief into his mouth, bound his hands with an officer's sash, and then carried him, naked as he was, to the guard-room, where they covered him with a soldier's cloak, and put him into a coach of the marshal's, that was in waiting. An officer was placed in it by his side, and he was carried to the winter-palace.

While the soldiers were struggling with the duke, the duchess got out of bed in her shift, and ran after her husband as far as the street, when a soldier took her by the arm, and dragged her to Manstein, asking him what he should do with her. He bade him carry her back into the palace; but the soldier, not caring to take the trouble, threw her down into the midst of the snow, and there left her. The captain of the guard, finding her in this piteous condition, lifted her up, had clothes brought to her, and reconducted her to her apartment.

Thus was a bold scheme successful: Biron's fate is familiar to all readers.

The Manstein Memoirs possess an interest only mellowed by the interval that has elapsed since their first publication. The general had much to tell of courts and camps, and told it pleasantly, and the Hertfordshire Incumbent deserves thanks for his literary restoration of the narrative in an English form.

### THE SANDWICH AND SOCIETY ISLANDS.

*Travels in the Sandwich and Society Islands.* By S. S. Hill.

London: Chapman and Hall.

MR. HILL has already made two appearances as an author and a traveller. First, he gave to the public his experiences in Siberia, which he brought down to the time of his departure from Kamtschatka for the tropics; and secondly, his sketches in the Baltic Sea. The present volume is intended as the sequel of the others. A short sketch of the history of the Sandwich Isles precedes the general matter of the book, as it would be impossible, without such a retrospect, to present anything like a just picture of the natives at the present day; and from a conviction that the importance which the rapid growth of so many new countries on the shores of the Pacific Ocean must shortly give to the Sandwich Isles in particular.

Honolulu is the most important place in the group, although situated on the small island of Woahoo; it contains the principal harbour, the principal commercial mart, the principal missionary station, and the court. The first difficulty of our tourist was to find a lodging, but, after much inquiry, he was directed to the sea-side, where he found within a spacious enclosure a neat little native house constructed of dried grass, containing two apartments, and furnished with chairs, tables, and even a sofa. This was built specially for letting to foreigners. Close at hand there was also a proper native hut, in which the family who owned the property resided, the patriarch being Major Mahooka, of the royal army. Eight or ten men lay stretched out upon mats, all indulging in the most absolute inaction. In fact, the natives are a lazy race; they love to doze away their listless existence by a fresh brook or beneath the shade of the graceful palm, amidst the unchanging face of nature, forgetting the past and indifferent to the future. Such is the character of most savage tribes; at least they avoid regular labour. In cold climes they prefer the hectic exertion and danger of hunting and fishing to the quiet pursuits of agriculture; in the tropics, nature hangs the bough bending with fruit over their mouths, and they have but to hold up their hands, while moodily basking in the sun, and pluck it.

The most interesting portions of Mr. Hill's book—in fact the purely original portions—are those which relate his personal adventures with the



natives, especially in remote parts of the islands where they are least under the influence of foreign ideas. Even when they are thus influenced, the struggle between barbarism and civilization is interesting, and barbarism still has the best of it. Whatever has been done for the amelioration of the natives has tended principally to the suppression of gross and cruel crimes, and the extinction of idolatrous and abominable rites. The difficulty of instilling into the minds of the people an appreciation of the positive refinement of Europe, of giving the natives a sense of that high propriety which distinguishes society in our high moral latitudes, has proved almost insurmountable, and there appears even to be an apprehension in the minds of some, whether it can ever be accomplished, before the race become extinct. It is painful to contemplate the decay of races and tribes under the tenderest care of civilization; yet there appear to be symptoms indicative of the dying out of the aboriginal inhabitants of these islands, at least where European civilization has touched them. The natives also seem to feel that they are doomed. When they fall ill they refuse, under this impression, to take the commonest care of themselves, and lie down to perish. In some instances impatience of sufferings hastens the issue of a disease. If they are attacked with fever they say that their boiling blood must be cooled, and rush out, if near the sea-shore, and plunge into the waves, or stretch themselves out on the beach for the surf to wash over them. If they reside in the interior of the island they lie down in some cool stream and there endeavour to quench the fire in their veins. The inevitable consequence is death in a short time. Epidemics are frequent; and the want both of medical skill, and the attendance of friends as nurses, increases their ravages to a frightful extent.

Yet much is being done for the improvement of the natives. Schools have been established by the missionaries, and besides the mental subjects taught, the pupils are instructed in gardening, agriculture, and mechanics. But the people are neither industrious nor persevering. If they begin an undertaking, they rarely finish it. Near Honolulu may be seen several houses in the European style, in a half-finished state. The fact is the wealthier portion of the community took it into their heads to have suburban villas, and they were forthwith commenced; but those who planned them had not the energy to carry them on, and there they stand mere shells and carcasses, a monument of one of the most striking features in the national character.

It is evident that the products of these islands might become very valuable under a little ordinary industry if properly bestowed. They are all covered with the most luxurious vegetation. The fruits and herbs of tropical climates are found here in abundance; and the coffee-tree and the sugar-plum have already been introduced. Our traveller had opportunities of judging of the capabilities of the soil under proper culture. Mr. Hall, an Englishman, has established a coffee plantation in Owyhee, for the purpose of making agricultural experiments, and this plantation Mr. Hill visited. In the West Indies the coffee crop frequently fails, but in these islands, as far as has been yet experienced, it is far more certain, and will probably, therefore, be ultimately one of the staples of commerce of the islands. The coffee, which our tourist tasted, he pronounced to be of a far better flavour than any produced in the West Indian plantations.

Mr. Hill visited the ruins of the principal temple of the old worship, in the grand court of which the god Kaili stood, exposed to the view of his terror-stricken adorers, and where the great King Kamehameha sacrificed the chief Konooa who had contended with him unsuccessfully for the sovereignty of the island. Near the spot where Captain Cook fell may be seen high in the rocks that hang perpendicularly over the shore, deep caverns which the natives assert are the burial-places of their ancestors, but whether they are artificial or natural, or whether they are actually a necropolis, has never properly been ascertained. A visit to the interior of either of them would quickly dispel doubt, and satisfy the minds of the curious and learned. They are said to resemble those holes in the sides of the mountains of Egypt, and along the banks of the Nile, which are known to have been used for the burial of the dead.

Mr. Hill was not a resident at Honolulu. He was ever moving about, coasting along the shores of the island, landing to investigate some bay or valley, or to penetrate up into the lofty mountains of the interior, and especially the celebrated volcano of Kilanea in the island of Owyhee. He had thus ample opportunities of observing the characters and dispositions of the natives; witnessing their habits and manners, their sports and amusements, and experiencing the mode of life they led. He found all hospitable and warm-hearted, particularly the women, who felt grateful for the altered condition of their sex, and in fact, for the moral change which had taken place in the condition of the whole island. On one occasion *les dames de la Halle* of Owyhee entertained him to a fish dinner—for their husbands were fishermen—which national taste induced them to eat raw. One of the fair sex undertook to be principal orator on the occasion, and made several revelations of things as they were. "Good howries" (that is, gentlemen), said she, "it was not fish only that we eat raw before the missionaries taught us the new religion. When I was a child, half the number of us that are now present would have found your white body, fresh-killed as we should have eaten it, at least in a time of scarcity, but a meagre meal."

When Mr. Hill had made his survey of the Sandwich Isles he extended his travels southward to the Society Islands, of which Otaheite is the principal, and Pomare the queen. His stay here was limited to ten days or so, owing to the departure of the only vessel by which he could leave the shore for some time. He did not, however, fail to make the best of his time; but upon the whole, "the impressions we retained after leaving this fair isle, had less of the agreeable in them to counterbalance the dark pictures which the condition of a declining race must ever exhibit, than those which we retained of the Sandwich Islands."

We cannot dismiss the work without suggesting to Mr. Hill, whose travels are, apparently, to be continued, that he might advantageously compress his matter. His style is heavy with redundant words. He should remember that brevity and sprightliness, as they are the soul of wit, so are they of light composition. His narrative is really interesting, and well worth the reading.

## TRANSATLANTIC LATTER-DAY POETRY.

*Leaves of Grass.* (Brooklyn, New York: 1855. London: Horsell.)—"Latter-day poetry" in America is of a very different character from the same manifestation in the old country. Here, it is occupied for the most part with dreams of the middle ages, of the old knightly and religious times; in America, it is employed chiefly with the present, except when it travels out into the undiscovered future. Here, our latter-day poets are apt to whine over the times, as if Heaven were perpetually betraying the earth with a show of progress that is in fact retrogression, like the backward advance of crabs: there, the minstrels of the stars and stripes blow a loud note of exultation before the grand new epoch, and think the Greeks and Romans, the early Oriental races, and the later men of the middle centuries, of small account before the onward tramping of these present generations. Of this latter sect is a certain phenomenon who has recently started up in Brooklyn, New York—one Walt Whitman, author of "*Leaves of Grass*," who has been received by a section of his countrymen as a sort of prophet, and by Englishmen as a kind of fool. For ourselves, we are not disposed to accept him as the one, having less faith in latter-day prophets than in latter-day poets; but assuredly we cannot regard him as the other. Walt is one of the most amazing, one of the most startling, one of the most perplexing, creations of the modern American mind; but he is no fool, though abundantly eccentric, nor is his book mere food for laughter, though undoubtedly containing much that may most easily and fairly be turned into ridicule.

The singularity of the author's mind—his utter disregard of ordinary forms and modes—appears in the very title-page and frontispiece of his work. Not only is there no author's name (which in itself would not be singular), but there is no publisher's name—that of the English bookseller being a London addition. Fronting the title is the portrait of a bearded gentleman in his shirt-sleeves and a Spanish hat, with an all-pervading atmosphere of Yankee-doodle about him; but again there is no patronymic, and we can only infer that this roystering blade is the author of the book. Then follows a long prose treatise by way of Preface (and here once more the anonymous system is carried out, the treatise having no heading whatever); and after that we have the poem, in the course of which, a short autobiographical discourse reveals to us the name of the author.

A passage from the Preface, if it may be so called, will give some insight into the character and objects of the work. The dots do not indicate any abbreviation by us, but are part of the author's singular system of punctuation:—

Other states indicate themselves in their deputies . . . but the genius of the United States is not best or most in its executives or legislatures, nor in its ambassadors or authors or colleges or churches or parlors, nor even in its newspapers or inventors . . . but always most in the common people. Their manners speech dress friendships—the freshness and candour of their physiognomy—the picturesque looseness of their carriage . . . their deathless attachment to freedom—their aversion to anything indecorous, or soft, or mean—the practical acknowledgment of the citizens of one state by the citizens of all other states—the fierceness of their roused resentment—their curiosity and welcome of novelty—their self-esteem and wonderful sympathy—their susceptibility to a slight—the air they have of persons who never knew how it felt to stand in the presence of superiors—the fluency of their speech—their delight in music, the sure symptom of manly tenderness and native elegance of soul . . . their good temper and open-handedness—the terrible significance of their elections—the President's taking off his hat to them not they to him—these too are unrhymed poetry. It awaits the gigantic and generous treatment worthy of it.

This "gigantic and generous treatment," we presume, is offered in the pages which ensue. The poem is written in wild, irregular, unrhymed, almost unmetrical "lengths," like the measured prose of Mr. Martin Farquhar Tupper's *Proverbial Philosophy*, or of some of the Oriental writings. The external form, therefore, is startling, and by no means seductive, to English ears, accustomed to the sumptuous music of ordinary metres; and the central principle of the poem is equally staggering. It seems to resolve itself into an all-attracting egotism—an eternal presence of the individual soul of Walt Whitman in all things, yet in such wise that this one soul shall be presented as a type of all human souls whatsoever. He goes forth into the world, this rough, devil-may-care Yankee; passionately identifies himself with all forms of being, sentient or insentient; sympathizes deeply with humanity; riots with a kind of Bacchanal fury in the force and fervour of his own sensations; will not have the most vicious or abandoned shut out from final comfort and reconciliation; is delighted with Broadway, New York, and equally in love with the desolate backwoods, and the long stretch of the uninhabited prairie, where the wild beasts wallow in the reeds, and the wilder birds start upwards from their nests among the grass; perceives a divine mystery wherever his feet conduct or his thoughts transport him; and beholds all beings tending towards the central and sovereign Me. Such, as we conceive, is the key to this strange, grotesque, and bewildering book; yet we are far from saying that the key will unlock all the quirks and oddities of the volume. Much remains of which we confess we can make nothing; much that seems to us purely fantastical and preposterous; much that appears to our muddy vision gratuitously prosaic, needlessly plain-speaking, disgusting without purpose, and singular without result. There are so many evidences of a noble soul in Whitman's pages that we regret these aberrations, which only have the effect of discrediting what is genuine by the show of something false; and especially do we deplore the unnecessary openness with which Walt reveals to us matters which ought rather to remain in a sacred silence. It is good not to be ashamed of Nature; it is good to have an all-inclusive charity; but it is also good, sometimes, to leave the veil across the Temple.

That the reader may be made acquainted with the vividness with which Walt can paint the unhackneyed scenery of his native land, we subjoin a panorama:—

By the city's quadrangular houses . . . in log-huts, or camping with lumber-men, Along the ruts of the turnpike . . . along the dry gulch and rivulet-bed,

Hoeing my onion-patch, and rows of carrots and parsnips . . . crossing savannas . . . trailing in forests,  
 Prospecting . . . gold-digging . . . girdling the trees of a new purchase,  
 Scorched ankle-deep by the hot sand . . . hauling my boat down the shallow river;  
 Where the panther walks to and fro on a limb overhead . . . where the buck turns furiously at the hunter,  
 Where the rattlesnake suns his flabby length on a rock . . . where the otter is feeding on fish,  
 Where the alligator in his tough pimples sleeps by the bayou,  
 Where the black bear is searching for roots or honey . . . where the beaver pats the mud with his paddle-tail;  
 Over the growing sugar . . . over the cotton plant . . . over the rice in its low, moist, field;  
 Over the sharp-peaked farmhouse with its scalloped eum and slender shoots from the gutters;  
 Over the western persimmon . . . over the long-leaved corn and the delicate blue flowered flax;  
 Over the white and brown buckwheat, a hummer and a buzzer there with the rest,  
 Over the dusky green of the rye as it ripples and shades in the breeze;  
 Scaling mountains . . . pulling myself cautiously up . . . holding on by low scragged limbs,  
 Walking the path worn in the grass and beat through the leaves of the brush;  
 Where the quail is whistling betwixt the woods and the wheatlot,  
 Where the bat flies in the July eve . . . where the great goldbug drops through the dark;  
 Where the flails keep time on the barn floor,  
 Where the brook puts out of the roots of the old tree and flows to the meadow,  
 Where cattle stand and shake away flies with the tremulous shuddering of their hides,  
 Where the cheese-cloth hangs in the kitchen, and andirons straddle the hearth-slab, and cobwebs fall in festoons from the rafters;  
 Where triphammers crash . . . where the press is whirling its cylinders;  
 Wherever the human heart beats with terrible throes out of its ribs.

*The House by the Sea.* A Poem. By Thomas Buchanan Read. (Philadelphia: Parry and McMillan.)—Whosoever likes a story steeped in morbid horrors, and pressing on the mind with a sickening weight of supernatural dread, will be pleased with this weird tale, in which suicides, ghosts, demons, a maniac, a reanimated corpse, and some miserable human beings trembling at their perpetual contact with the spirit-world, perform a disagreeable masquerade by a wild sea-shore, among rocks and in a desolate house, amidst storms and darkness and livid light. The author seems to have based his poetical style in a great degree on that of Shelley, but on the most unhappy and least sterling elements of that great poet's genius. This particular poem, however, must have been written in a fit of somnambulism after reading Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner" and "Christabel." Of the latter it more especially reminds us in the vagueness of the story, in its dusk diablerie, in the mysterious and beautiful ghost-lady, and in the irregular, overflowing octo-syllabic verse. We perceive by some criticisms of former works by Mr. Read, appended to the present volume, that he is recognized by several of his countrymen as one of the chief of American poets. For ourselves, we can only judge from the work now before us, which exhibits power, of an unhealthy kind, in some parts, together with a degree of weakness and conventionality in other parts, from which we should suppose that the author is still very young. But the effect of the whole is most unpleasant. It is as if we had been sitting in a charnel-house, surrounded by half-alive corpses, stirring about in the darkness and the close, hot air; or as if we had but imperfectly recovered from a debauch of opium.

*The Poetical Works of Augustine Duganne.* (Philadelphia: Parry and McMillan.)—The Quaker city here presents us with a thick, large-sized octavo, crammed full of verses, satirical, lyrical, sonorous, and denunciatory. The author is a most vehement Republican, whose sympathies with the cause of the people are so cosmopolitan that he sings democratic hymns for half the nations of the earth, and loftily frowns down upon "Mr. Bull." He has evidently got the gift of great fluency, for here in this one volume are poems enough for a lifetime, though the author's portrait, fronting the title-page, exhibits him as a man yet in the freshness of his years. But his "facility" is not without the attendant "fatal" influence; and had he written less he might have been worth more. His satires have smartness and sting; he has lyrical passion, and might add something to his country's literature if he would but concentrate his strength, instead of diluting it in a wash of words. His Republicanism is not of the largest or most generous kind, because it appeals only to a class, and cannot recognize the diversities of good, but is denunciatory and impatient. Yet, while the Old World wastes so visibly beneath military oppression, this rough counterpoise from the west of the Atlantic may be needed; and so we will not quarrel with Mr. Duganne's peculiar form of exclusiveness, but wait patiently for the time which shall hold all interests in an equal scale.

*Poems.* By Thomas William Parsons. (Boston: Ticknor and Fields.)—Mr. Parsons writes, through a large part of his volume, in the spirit of those English versifiers of the middle of last century, who paid more attention to the elegant turn of their compositions than to the weight of their matter. Some of his poems are pretty and graceful; and, although he has no great depth or originality, and is sometimes contentedly common-place, he is neither spasmodic nor obscure.

*German Lyrics.* By Charles T. Brooks. (Boston: Ticknor, Reed, and Fields.)—There is a certain affinity between the German and the American mind; therefore, these translations from the chief poets of modern Rhineland should be of the best quality. We must confess, however, that the English is sometimes clumsy and involved, as if the translator could not easily render the thoughts of his authors into a new language. But the volume may serve as a not unpleasant index to recent German poetry, of use to those who cannot read the original tongue.

#### THE MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY.

*The Municipal Directory for 1856.*

Kelly and Co. This Manual is intended for the use of persons interested in the working of the Metropolitan Local Management Act. That act called into existence a number of governing bodies, with considerable powers, as well as a multi-

tude of offices, filled by the parishioners of the several districts. The Messrs. Kelly have published, in a compact form, a directory containing the names and addresses of the members of the metropolitan board, and local vestries. Their resources, as publishers of the best general directory, have enabled them to produce an accurate volume, the utility of which will be obvious to the general body of parishioners.

## The Arts.

### THE PICTURE GALLERY AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A MODERN gallery, divided between English and foreign artists, has been opened at the Crystal Palace, but is not yet complete. The visitor finds a suite of rooms, one of which contains works of native art, while the rest are devoted to the exhibition of French, German, and other continental paintings. We borrow a few particulars from the *Times*:—

"The best display is in the rooms allotted to continental art. Many of the best English pictures—among others one by David Roberts—have not yet arrived. There are, indeed, a "Sancho Panza" of Leslie's; a capital portrait of Charles Keane as Louis XI., by Phillips; a landscape, with a foreground of ferns, by Antony; one of Frost's sea-nymphs; some calves, by Horlar; and some works by Pickersgill, Herring, Rolt, and others. But, on the whole, the English part of the exhibition seems to be the most backward. Of the German school, the principal work is a landscape with figures by old Lessing, which is, indeed, a first-rate specimen of the style. Every detail here is admirable, the light of the fire, the stonework of the ruins, the action of the figures; but best of all are the keeping and harmony of the whole—the figures not being lost in the landscape, and the landscape not being a mere background to the figures. Jordan exhibits a wedding scene that is full of life; Leu, a landscape of water and mountains, the former remarkable for its transparency; Gude and Weber send some noteworthy landscapes; while the fruit of Preye and the cabinet picture of Tidemand, in which peasants appear around a fire, are also well worth looking into. Of the Belgian school, Pieron sends two landscapes, both interesting to the English visitor, although there are very few foreign landscapes which he can look at with perfect satisfaction. In the French room, the oxen of Rosa Bonheur, the horses of Montpezan, which are almost always good in intention, if sometimes faulty in drawing. The horses painted by Dreux, with a long avenue behind, is a bold attempt at perspective and foreshortening which few of our artists would even think of. If the attempt is not quite successful, the motive is at least praiseworthy. In the same spirit, Sebron contributes a view of New York in snow, the horses dashing down the street at a quick trot. Courbet sends some of his remarkable pictures; Couturier has some excellent poultry; and Biard has a picture of Gulliver at Brobdingnag, which, as usual with him, is better in conception than in execution. We must not forget, however, among the Belgian pictures an architectural scene by Henry Leys, in which the tone is very fine; an old woman and boy, by De Bloch; and a couple of donkeys, by Stevens."

### THE AMATEUR PANTOMIME.

THE second amateur pantomime ever produced in this or perhaps any other city was ushered into gaslight on Monday evening, according to announcement, at the LYCEUM THEATRE. We gave in our last impression a general idea of the subject and the treatment, and can now only repeat our regret that an occasion which should have been devoted to nothing but mirth and charity (two very dear and loving sisters, if Exeter Hall will believe us), should have been degraded into a means of flouting the most sacred of human causes—the cause of free action and free thought, now doubly to be revered and championed because it is under a thick, though we will hope a temporary, cloud. However, we will turn from this painful subject, and regard the performance in its brighter and more honest features. Her Majesty, fatigued by her masonic labours in the morning at the Wellington College, was not present; but the Prince of Wales, one of his brothers, and their suite, occupied the Royal box. The representation was to the full as successful as the last; and Mr. ALBERT SMITH is greatly funny in the part of Tell, and in a thimble-rigging performance at a country fair in the after-part of the pantomime. It is invidious, however, to mention one actor where all were good; and our space does not permit us to describe each of the pantomimists. Suffice it to say that the spirit and physical energy displayed were extraordinary; that the whole thing overflowed with action and practical fun; that Miss MARY OLIVER and Miss ROSINA WRIGHT lent their graceful aid to the non-professionals; and that the performance was uproariously successful. The proceeds will be given, at the desire of the QUEEN, to the Royal Female Naval School.

A second representation will take place in about a fortnight's time, most probably at DRURY-LANE. Already the applications for seats are most numerous, and, as the prices will be lower than on the previous occasion, a crowded house is anticipated. It is stated that the proceeds of this and any subsequent performances (some of which, at large provincial towns, are in contemplation) will be devoted to the foundation of a charitable fund, to be called "The Fielding Fund," for the immediate relief of destitute literary men.

### RISTORI.

THE night but one after the grotesque drolleries of the Amateur Pantomime, the LYCEUM THEATRE was again crowded to behold the first appearance of the great Italian tragedian, Madame RISTORI. The play was the *Medea* of M. ERNEST LEGOUVÉ, translated into the actress's own language. The excitement of expectation in the house before the rising of the curtain, and the intense enthusiasm awakened by the performance, were such as are rarely seen. Madame RISTORI has made an unmistakable success; but the expression of our own opinions on the character of her acting we reserve for a future week.

MADAME ALBERTINI on Monday night made her first appearance at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE as *Leonora* in the *Trovatore*, on which occasion she met with great success; and Mademoiselle MARIE TAGLIONI has sparkled before the audience in a spirit-stirring ballet. At the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, the *Favorita* of DONIZETTI was reproduced before the Queen on Thursday.

THE *Flying Dutchman*—a piece which comes to us like a ghost of other days—has started up into a new existence at the ADELPHI. Madame CELESTE plays the spectral skipper; and WRIGHT provides plenty of food for the laughter of boxes, pit, and gallery.



the dead man's rest. Verily WILLIAM PALMER handled his mortal instruments with the same consummate skill and collectedness as an Indian juggler handles fire.

#### A CHALLENGE TO THE REVOLUTION.

MANIN has addressed another Letter to the Italians. He had said "Agitate." The word had been construed to mean "Rebel." Some ardent friends of the Italian cause are offended by his caution, and characterize the explanatory letter as an afflicting palinode, a sign of fear and of moral decay. But MANIN is certainly right,—not less right than when he adjured his countrymen to leave assassination to the Church, and to refuse, for liberty, the service of the dagger. The real patriot will not incur the risk of being confounded in the same class with that pensioned bravo who walks the streets of Paris, and enjoys the favour of the Tuileries for having attempted to murder the Duke of WELLINGTON. Of course there is an essential difference between them. The mercenary assassin stands lowest in the scale of crime; the political assassin, under some circumstances, stands where crime is doubtfully distinguished from error; and in Italy it is scarcely reasonable to condemn, with all the austerity of privileged virtue, the desperate soldier of liberty who makes use of the unlawful dagger. To comprehend his situation, and the palliation of his act, we must suppose ourselves Italians, immured in a Lombard city with an Austrian garrison. Not a human or social right is acknowledged; we dare not speak; we dare not write; the members of our family may disappear, one after another, and we dare not search after them. We may see wives and daughters exposed to infamous violence, even to public scourgings; three-fourths of our property may be sequestered for purposes of taxation. If we have exiled friends, we may stand by while their entire fortunes are appropriated by the Austrian officials, who, under the protection of an insolent army, mock the citizens, and threaten them with the prison or the gallows. If we can conceive ourselves in this position, we shall be able to sit in judgment on the assassins of Parma.

Nevertheless, MANIN does well to repudiate the doctrine of the dagger.

He does equally well, we think, to discountenance an immediate insurrection. The reason is evident.

Austria desires an immediate insurrection, provokes it, challenges it. She signs, jointly with France, a note to the Papal Government, notes to the Dukes of PARMA and TUSCANY, perhaps a note to the King of NAPLES; but she has a powerful military organization in the Italian peninsula, and a premature, partial, and desultory outbreak would give her an opportunity to exert all her means at once, and to break the force of the liberal movement along the whole line of the Adriatic, the Euxine, and the Tiber.

The evil would not stop there. We repeat, Bonapartism is the danger of Italy. The scheme of Roman reform, proposed at Paris, and sanctioned, probably, with modifications by the POPE, would be the plea of a new occupation, and out of the embroilment that would ensue it is impossible to say what Italy would gain. We know who is scheming for Naples, and who for the Legations. We know, also, what is contemplated in Sardinia.

While the Italian Liberals, therefore, deserve all praise for keeping in view the national independence of their country, in preference to dynastic and local schemes, some of them are perverse and petulant in attributing cowardice or disloyalty to MANIN.

#### TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION—MARENGO.

THE English bought Waterloo—who will buy Marengo? Who will buy the last stone of NAPOLEON's pyramid, the tower of THEODORIC, the relic of THEODOLINDE, the Fontanone, the pictured City of the Victories, the Monumental palace, the statue of the First Consul, the ossuary, the shrine of the Knight DELAVO? If it were in America, the resuscitated BARNUM would buy it; if it were in England, it would go in building lots, and a corner would be reserved for a tea-garden; in France, it would be bought by and for France. But now, who will have it? Could not some baby, born in purple among golden bees, and under the wing of an eagle, be created King of Marengo? There would be an Italian state the more, and three dozen Swiss guards would guarantee his Majesty against all evils except an Austrian occupation, or a visit from his relatives in France. Surely, amid the glories of the Second Empire the field of Fontenone is not to remain mere private property. The young Knight DELAVO, journeying from Alexandria, saw the plain and the field, and THEODORIC's ruins, and seems to have grown giddy at the sight. For, with the zeal of STYLITES, he ascended NAPOLEON's monument, and has never since come down. But, unhappily, the hammer of an auctioneer in the Place du Châtelet will detach this devotee from his altar, and BONAPARTE's hat, and DESAIX's bust, and the mock tomb, will pass into other hands, and leave the Italian TUSSAUD without a habitation or a name.

Not exactly that. DELAVO did certainly bury nearly all his fortune in the purchase of Marengo. But the site and its monuments, passing through the crucible of the auctioneer, will probably restore to the tired BALTHAZAR some part of his exhausted patrimony. It is curious, however, to observe this man, devoting himself to a reputation, spending nearly the whole of his fortune to buy a battle-field, and lavishing the rest upon a collection of objects recalling the unspeakable degradation of Europe, and the all but irreparable abasement of the Italian nation during the supremacy of the First Empire. True, that since fourteen thousand human bodies, and horses uncounted, fed the soil of Marengo, it has been one of the most productive estates in Italy. During the first eight years after the battle the corn grew too rapidly and rankly, bent down in the green ear, and could not be gathered in. But DELAVO worshipped the ground, not for its hundred-fold yield, but for the sake of the young man, short, lean, with long straight hair, dressed in blue regimentals, and a wide grey capote, who there beat the Austrians in June, 1800; who drank at the well; who, "surrounded by fourteen thousand corpses," wrote from the inn his famous letter to FRANCIS OF AUSTRIA.

It was nothing to DELAVO that a King of the Goths had made this the place of his delight, that the Lombard monarchs summered at Marengo. He adored the battle, and the battle only, and calculated, with the enthusiasm of a Carribee, how much blood of men had swelled and stained the triple stream of the Fontenone. Here he traced the rush of the Consular Guard, there the rout of the Austrian cavalry; here he devoutly noted the stone on which NAPOLEON sat, there the well of the water he had glorified by drinking. All this was madness to DELAVO, and he became Lord of Marengo.

But the consequence of his hero-worship is, that he cannot remain Lord of Marengo. There are not many German princes who could be so prodigal with the money of their subjects as was the Alexandrian Knight in the decoration of his multiform shrine.

Where the inn formerly stood there is now a sumptuous palace, constructed for the sole purpose of preserving the little chamber in which BONAPARTE stayed during the few days that followed the battle of Marengo. Inside this palace you perceive that DELAVO has one religion, one thought, one capacity; he is the slave—the lost, mortified, spell-bound slave—of the First Consul's fame. He has built a Court of Honour. In the centre is a statue of NAPOLEON; around rises a palisade of pikes, and lances, the Roman fasces and the axe. On one side is a wall, illuminated with designs in fresco of the City of the Victories, which BONAPARTE himself designed to build, with streets named in honour of his triumphs, and gates equivalent in number to the provinces of his empire. DELAVO employed the artists of Alexandria to idealize the plan, and to paint it, as an illusion, on the wall. He procured from the Alps a block of red granite to form the pedestal of the Consul's statue. The interior of the palatial monument, rich in architecture and in colour, the chamber of the apotheosis, the vaulted roofs embossed with gold, the figures of winged angels singing an everlasting hosanna to the military chief, the massive chapel of the dead, the Emperor's coach, his hat-case of white velvet embroidered with flowing silk, have been treasured by the knight, who has also dug up the skulls, spines, leg, arm, and breast-bones of the dead, wherever they could be found, and deposited them, in monumental profusion, in the ossuary of Marengo.

Was ever devotion more devout? And all this aggregate of triumphal trash is to be split to pieces by a notary's hammer. And the Knight DELAVO is to give up Marengo, and some one is to buy it, who may "improve the property," pull down the angels, and send the hat-case to the NAPOLEON Chamber in Baker-street.

#### THE SORE POINT.

THE sore point of the Tory party is, that not a single man of ability has risen for years to defend its principles. It has two showy orators, the indolent Earl of DEBY and Mr. DISRAELI, who notoriously despises his friends, who never was sincere, either as a Radical or a Tory, who is not connected with them by family traditions, and who breaks loose, every now and then, from the Carlton set, and proves that they are dumb without their leader. It is scarcely to be conceived how frantic they have been against him, on account of his absence from the division on the temporalities of the Irish Church. He has made equivocal remarks on that subject. They are not quite sure, therefore, that he intends to vindicate much longer the robberies of the Appropriation Clause. We, for our own part, believe they have nothing to fear. They will not find in DISRAELI the successor of PEEL. But it has been lamentable to hear their recriminations for a week past.

The party, in fact, is so destitute of rising talent, that it is alarmed by the least appearance of defection. Every politician of ability who has, within the last fifteen years, emerged from the Carlton, has been a thorn in the side of the Tories. Lord STANLEY is the latest example. He is exposing them daily, and though he certainly makes some amends by suffering his political clerks to controvert, journalistically, what he utters in Parliament or on the platform, yet the Tories cannot help seeing that his intelligence struggles against their principles, that he has no desire to be abased by conformity with the creed of fear, finality, and stupefaction.

This was one reason for the RANELAGH

motion at the Carlton Club. It is remembered what effective use Mr. ABRAHAM HAYWARD made of his knowledge of the Tory party while Lord DERBY and Mr. DISRAELI were staggering at the head of affairs. That gentleman, when the motion was debated, had time to count the antagonists he had wounded, for they rioted with vociferous vulgarity, after the manner approved by the gentlemen of England, all the time he addressed them. This outburst was, of course, no more than a display of exasperated incapacity; but the incident illustrates, in a sufficiently remarkable manner, the truth of the observation now so frequently heard in political circles, that the Tory party is losing, year by year, in numbers and in intellectual resources. The great public itself can appreciate their parliamentary speakers; and as for their journalists, they who read them know them.

The inability to bear criticism is another sign of failing powers. It is not necessary to the political life of a great party that it should circulate lampoons and scurrilities in reply to every suggestion of fault or failure. Yet this is the Tory method. In the inverse ratio they find it necessary to drive everlastingly in "a substantive-and-six" the fame of their two rhetoricians, to call their second-rate talkers judicious when they cannot call them eloquent, to praise their property when they cannot praise their arguments, to allude to the first Duke as a compliment to the tenth, and to fatigue the public with perpetual complaints that the Duke of ARGYLL is a precocious Cabinet minister, and that Mr. F. PEEL is allowed to be saucy in the House of Commons.

#### INDIAN PUBLIC WORKS.\*

THE river Godavery rises in the western Ghats, not far from Bombay, at an elevation of 3000 feet above the sea, and, after flowing 800 miles in nearly a direct course to the eastward, finally empties itself into the Bay of Bengal, about 400 miles north of the city of Madras. This mighty river drains a district containing 130,000 square miles, and, according to the season of the year, discharges from 1,500,000 to 150,000,000 of cubic yards of water per hour. About 80 miles from the sea it has forced a passage, five miles in length, through solid rocks 2500 feet in height. The width of the stream at its surface during the freshes is 300 yards, and the depth at the same time not less than 180 feet. Beyond these hills the breadth of the river varies from 800 yards to one mile. During the monsoon it sometimes suddenly rises 80 feet, and submerges the whole surrounding country. Below the hills the Godavery spreads itself out in a channel several miles in breadth through a soft alluvial soil, formed by the detritus washed down by its own swollen floods. About 30 miles down stream the Delta may be said to commence. This extensive tract of land was formerly constantly liable to inundation, so that frequently the only intercourse between villages was by means of boats. Agricultural operations were, in consequence, fatally retarded, and it was almost as usual a thing for the crops to fail as to arrive at maturity. During many months of the year the roads were absolutely impassable, and at all times so bad that the transit of goods cost 3jd. a ton per mile. And if in any particular year the people escaped a deluge of waters, their labours were equally neutralized by the effects of severe drought. From these two opposite causes the inhabitants of one of the most fertile districts in the world were nearly always compelled to import grain, and very frequently were reduced to the verge of starvation. Under the most favourable circumstances the value of the two annual crops did not exceed 17. per acre.

The facilities for irrigation were, however, so great and obvious, that in the year 1843 Sir H. Montgomery, the Revenue Commissioner in the district of Rajahmundry, recommended that an experienced engineer should be instructed to report upon the capabilities of the Delta. The Madras

Government did honour to its judgment by selecting Colonel Arthur Cotton, late Chief Engineer of that Presidency. That able officer soon discovered that to develop the resources of the country there were four things needful: the river must be restrained from wandering in devious and ever-changing courses; artificial channels must be cut to carry off the floods from the low lands; the water of the river must be kept at a sufficiently high level to command the country for the purposes of irrigation; and lastly, means must be provided for the cheap transit of goods and agricultural produce. Owing to various causes, which it is needless to recapitulate, it was not until 1848 that the works were actually commenced, but, once begun, they were pushed forward with untiring and enlightened energy. These works were on a stupendous scale. Opposite the town of Rajahmundry the Godavery is about 3000 yards wide, and in the freshes rises 32 feet above its ordinary level. But, five miles lower down the rise is only 28 feet, while the ordinary depth was no more than 18 inches, owing to the great width of the channel. The distance from bank to bank at this spot measures 7200 yards, or rather more than four miles; but of this space 2800 yards are occupied by low-lying islands, completely under water in the freshes. These islets stand in the midst of four channels of the respective breadth of 1800, 1000, 600, and 1000 yards. This was the point selected for the construction of a gigantic weir, to raise the water 14 feet above the bed of the river. The masonry part is 12 feet high, with a level surface 18 feet broad, used as a carriage way, and a curved slope on the down stream side 30 feet wide. The islands are crossed by embankments three to eight yards high, and 12 yards broad at the top. Three main channels lead from the weir, one at each end and one at the centre; the locks to admit boats into these being 100 feet by 15, with side walls 24 feet high, but on the western side the lock is 150 feet long. On the crown of the weir strong grooved iron posts have been erected, to receive planks, and thus raise the level of the water two feet and a half above the masonry. This great work was begun in 1848 and completed in 1852.

The next and partially simultaneous measure, was to deepen and widen the channels leading to the sea. When finished, there will be seven main lines from the weir to tide-water, and two high-level channels parallel with the coast, "in all, about 850 miles of first-class navigation, besides the creeks and branches of the river connected by them, together about 500 miles, and at least 500 miles more of second-class navigation; so that the Delta, which contains about 3000 square miles, will be pervaded by 1000 miles of canal, or one mile to every three square miles, by which goods can be conveyed at 4d. per ton, and passengers at 4d. per head."

To obviate the danger of inundations, to which the Delta had previously been subject, immense channels are being cut, which will carry off all superfluous waters to the coast. By the same means the Colair lake has been drained, and a tract of splendid land, 24 miles long and 12 broad, has been rendered suitable for cultivation. As the waters of the Godavery, like those of the Po, flow considerably above the level of the circumjacent country, it has been found necessary to raise artificial embankments from two to four yards high and four or five yards broad at the top, from the hills to the sea. At the mouth of the river there is an excellent port, the only good one on that coast, though the entrance is somewhat impeded by a bar, which is now being removed by dredging, "and there seems no doubt that a passage may be kept of any required depth, as the bar is situated at the upper end of the bay, perfectly sheltered from the swell of the sea."

To recapitulate: An enormous dam has been carried across the Delta; seven navigable channels connect the weir with the coast; immense drains diminish the risk of inundation; eighty miles of embankments restrain the river in its proper bed; a safe harbour is being constructed; and several thousand men are now employed in improving the navigation of the Upper Godavery, and in opening a communication with the sea for 10,000,000 of people. These great results have been obtained at a comparatively small cost. The actual expenditure up to 1853 was only 180,000*l.*, producing an increased revenue of 60,000*l.*, or an annual profit of 33 per cent. Before the improvements of the Delta are completed, double that sum will no doubt be expended, and the investment will prove still more lucrative. But this, in truth, is taking the

most narrow and ignoble view of the great benefits already obtained. In the first place, 1,200,000 acres of excellent land have been drained, embanked, and irrigated, and the annual net produce raised from 1*l.* to 2*l.* 5*s.* per acre. The exports have increased 126,000*l.* yearly, while the import of food has diminished by 20,000*l.* In transit alone, an annual saving of 70,000*l.* has been effected, and consequently the people are enriched to that extent. Previous to 1846, the average export of bullion—that is, the balance against the district—was 98,000*l.*, whereas in 1853-4, a season of scarcity and drought, there was a balance of 3000*l.* in its favour. In this latter year, the revenue was 16 per cent. higher, and the exports of produce 4½ fold greater than in an abundant season before the works. The traffic on the new canals in that same year has been estimated at 150,000 tons carried 30 miles, and no fewer than 18,000 boats passed down the three main channels from the weir. It must be remembered that these are the results obtained in the second year after the partial completion of the works. When the whole system of improvements shall be perfected, their success will be far more conspicuous. It is not too much to expect, that by that time the Delta, hitherto scarcely able to support 500,000 wretched inhabitants, alternating between the fear of drought and of inundation, will be cultivated by at least 2,000,000 of a happy and prosperous people. The natural resources of the soil are very considerable, and the facilities for producing cheap white and excellent salt are unbounded. Coal of good quality has been found in two or three localities, and timber can be had to an unlimited extent.

These stupendous works have been devised and executed by the orders of that Government which it is now the fashion to abuse as neglectful of the material interests of the country entrusted to its guidance and control. According to the advocates of "Young India," the ancient Hindoo and Mohammedan rulers far surpassed the government of the Hon. Court in the greatness and utility of their public works. Are they aware of what has been done in the deltas of the Canvry and the Godavery, or of the extent of the Ganges Canal? Besides, with what sort of consistency do they upbraid the Indian Government for not laying out more money on public works, when they also reproach them for running into debt? These undertakings can only be accomplished by means of loans in the first instance. And there is nothing to be expected at present from private companies, or from the introduction of English capital. The Manchester merchants deliberately refused a proposal "for forming a company to navigate the Godavery, and to bring down to the coast the excellent cotton of Berar, which is at present carried on bullocks' backs four hundred miles, at a cost of nearly a penny a pound. In this case there was everything that could well be thought of to stimulate to enterprise; everything was at stake; but nothing has been done by them, and the whole matter has been left to the Government; and had it not been for the energy and wisdom of the Madras Government, no step in this matter of such vast national importance, and such a vital point to Manchester, would have been taken."

THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION.—Oxford, during the past week, has been in the thick of "the Commemoration." The degree of D.C.L. has been conferred on the following persons:—Prince Frederic William of Prussia; the Prince of Baden; Count Bernstorff; Musurus Bey, Minister Plenipotentiary of the Sultan; the Earl of Clarendon; the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine; Lord Ashburton; Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart.; Admiral Sir Richard Saunders Dundas; Sir Henry Holland, Bart.; Sir Colin Campbell; Sir William Fenwick Williams, of Kars, Bart.; Major-General Sir Harry D. Jones; Lord Abercorn; Dr. Sandwith; and Dr. Barth.

DINNER AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Lord and Lady Mayoress, on Wednesday, entertained at the Mansion House a large party of notabilities, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Winchester, Archdeacon Hale, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord John Russell, Mr. Henley, Mr. Gladstone, &c.

ACCIDENTS FROM THE FIREWORKS.—Later accounts have unfortunately shown that we were mistaken last week in saying that the display on the evening of the 29th ult. passed off without casualties. One death resulted to a young man, who was struck on the head with a rocket-stick; and several of the lookers-on were seriously injured. In one of these cases, total blindness was caused by a blow from the stick of one of the rockets; and in two other cases partial blindness ensued in the same way.

\* Profits upon British Capital expended upon Indian Public Works, &c. &c. By Colonel Arthur Cotton. Richardson Brothers.



## Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

WHATEVER may be the melancholy truth respecting the decline of the drama in England, there is no symptom of a decline of interest in dramatic art. We need not at present dwell on the abundant evidences of this interest afforded by Literature; let us glance only at public amusements. Besides our own theatres, not in a brilliant condition, it must be confessed, we have two Italian Operas, a French theatre, and, for two years, Mr. MITCHELL gave us a German theatre. This season we have RISTORI, and an Italian troupe. Signors ARRIVABENE and FUSCO are lecturing on ALFIERI and the Italian drama. Mrs. KEMBLE, Miss GLYN, Mrs. CHARTERLEY, and others, give dramatic readings all over England, and now we have to announce a new and daring effort in the same direction. A young German authoress, Fräulein ELISE SCHMIDT, who comes here highly recommended, proposes to deliver three Dramatic Readings of a peculiar character. She is to read the *Prometheus of ÆSCHYLUS*, as translated by VOSS; the *Œdipus at Colonus* of SOPHOCLES, as translated by DONNER, and the *Electra* of EURIPIDES, as translated by DONNER. These plays are all arranged for the Reading by herself, and will be accompanied by BEETHOVEN'S, MENDELSSOHN'S, and VOGEL'S music. When we remember what a deep and vivid impression the *Antigone* produced on our English pit, although cruelly mangled in the representation, we cannot doubt that the grand old Greek plays will affect the hearts and imaginations of the most miscellaneous audience, if read with power. Fräulein SCHMIDT is known in Germany as the authoress of a dramatic poem, *Judas Ischarioth*, and of three dramas, recently published under the title of *Drei Dramen*.

We are a sad people, and, as FROISSART long ago noticed of us, take even our pleasure with a dismal face—*moult tristement*. A sad, serious people, made sadder and more intolerable and intolerant by a puritanism which gives our saturnine qualities the pretence of something higher. How best to make each other unhappy is the 'moral and religious' aim of one vast body of Englishmen; how to make each other uncomfortable is the 'proper' purpose of the rest. To think of our legislation and our conventional rules, to witness our Sundays and our evening parties, must perplex and daunt a Frenchman or Italian in his gayest mood. "Restraint" is the magic word which rules our life. We call mirth frivolous when we do not consider it worse; we call dreariness dignity, and dullness wisdom. *Blackwood* and *Fraser* both touch on this point this month. The former in a paper called "The Porch and the Garden," says well:—

CELSUS. But wisdom is generally supposed to have something to do with gravity, and good people are popularly called serious people, and gravity and seriousness are difficult to reconcile with that festive and joyous view of life, and all its circumstances, which you advocate; besides this, it is well known that the most intellectual men are often the saddest, and this because they see the farthest into the truth of things, and it is undoubtedly true that the stupidest people are often the merriest.

TELEPOLIMUS. It was through the appearance, and not the reality of wisdom, that the owl, that gravest of birds, came to be the bird of Minerva. The gravity of the owl, and the softness and silence of his general carriage, is easily accounted for. It enables him to catch mice and small birds; in fact, it pays. So does gravity pay amongst men, and not least in all the learned professions. Ask any fashionable physician, rising or risen barrister, popular preacher, or successful schoolmaster. The majority of mankind not being over wise, he will always best find butter to his bread who conforms, at least in externals, to their estimate. Neither need this be very hypocritical, for there may be light within when the outside of the house is dark, and many faces of Englishmen are like their London houses, stiff and dismal without, but within full of brightness and taste, and fine arts. In these cases it is a purely defensive measure, and thus excusable. But it is more courageous to laugh when there is a reason for it. The man who calls laughter an idiot in Shakespeare is King John, when on the point of committing a murder. As for seriousness, I know no other language but ours in which the word has been made synonymous with godliness. I take that word to be one of the greatest stumbling-blocks in the way of making people better. The religions of the South, however false and imperfect, certainly do take account of both sides of life, and balance their fasts with their festivals. The keeping of Christmas is almost the only set-off against the preponderating gloom of ours. Hence comes it that human nature will assert itself blindly, and be merry and sad at wrong seasons. We turn Sunday into a Ramadan, and we play cricket on Good Friday. I suppose the difference may in part arise from the original discrepancies of the northern and southern nature, and perhaps Heathendom may still influence Christendom. The mythology of Odin and his brethren is stark and cold and awful, while that of Jupiter is joyous and festive. The very joys of the heathen northmen were more grim than their sorrows; for it is difficult to conceive anything less cheerful than the crowning pleasure of their paradise, which was to drink beer out of the skulls of their enemies. It must have been a lingering recollection of this savage bliss which often induces their serious descendants to take delight in picking their neighbours to pieces.

And *Fraser*, in a pleasant paper on the "Art of Story-telling," describes our streets thus:—

You see men hurrying through the streets, with an air of alarm on their faces, as if they were going on errands of life and death, when in fact their entire anxiety is to finish some, probably, very trivial affair, in order to get on with something else. The thoroughfares exhibit a dense population in a sort of agony of impatience. Work, care, precipitate haste, absorption of mind, are written in their eyes. Physicians, flying about to their patients, if they do not, like Sir Richard Blackmore, write epics "to the rumbling of their coach wheels," may be seen taking advantage of the brief intervals from house to house to keep up their professional reading, prepare lectures, post diaries, and write letters. Every minute has its billet. There is not an unoccupied head or hand—always excepting, of course, the drones and butterflies. There is no rest; and leisure, in its sunny sense, is a luxury unknown. Every

other country has periods of repose and indulgence. Toll is elsewhere mitigated by relaxation. The sun never sets elsewhere upon a whole race of men who have been labouring without respite since the dawn. There are cymbals and trumpets, and tambourines to gladden the ears, and a thousand *délassements* to fill and lull the imagination. But in England, where we have plays, and concerts, and state pageantries, and anniversary dinners in abundance, the feeling of enjoyment is ever overcast by the heavy shadows of business. We are never entirely released from our daily responsibilities, our perpetual cares.

And all this toil and turmoil, all this anxiety and heartache, to "get a position"—which means, to live in a large house, and give dismal dinner parties, and respect all the proprieties, and be legitimately uncomfortable all the days of your life. Leisure, the sunny repose of life, and amusement, its filip and its grace, are scarcely to be thought of. Amusement may perhaps be offensive to Heaven. It is certainly carnal. And if men once learn to be happy on this earth, to say to the passing moment, "Stay! thou art fair," who can foresee the dreadful consequences.

One of the curious perversions of our noblest faculties is that "foreseeing of consequences" which disturbs mankind with puerile terrors. To look before and after with large discourse of reason is assuredly the grand characteristic which distinguishes man from the brute, and cultivated from uncultivated man. Yet how we abuse this faculty! If a thinker arises among us we foresee that his doctrine will "lead to Atheism;" if a reformatory measure be proposed, we foresee that it will "lead to anarchy;" if the bands play in the parks on Sundays we foresee they will lead to irreligion, and all other sins; if an organ be placed in a Scottish church there are thousands of logical Scotchmen who will foresee that it "leads to Popery." See on this subject an excellent article in *Fraser* on the "Organ Question," in which the reviewer, too gently, yet conclusively, takes Dr. CANDLISH to task for his recent publication on the admission of organs into churches. It is an almost hopeless sign for a nation when men like Drs. CUMMING and CANDLISH are looked up to by large classes, when bigotry so narrow can triumph by the aid of understandings so weak. Yet there is no denying the fact that the CUMMING and CANDLISH school of writers have immense influence. And this because, while a large class sympathize with, and look up to, their miserable teaching, the larger class, which in secret laughs at or despises it, is kept silent by timid respectability. Whatever nonsense is uttered in the name of religion gains tolerance, lest in opposing it men should incur the charge of opposing religion.

## FROUDE'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

*History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Death of Elizabeth.* By James Anthony Froude, M.A. 2 Vols. J. W. Parker and Son.

In the history Mr. Froude intends to write is to be completed on the scale of this commencement, it will be a very valuable but somewhat alarmingly voluminous work; but, as much of the bulk of the present volumes is entirely superfluous, there is some hope that Mr. Froude may reconsider his plan when warned of the voluminousness to which that plan must conduct him. He has, of course, adopted his plan after reflection; the long citations of statutes, letters, and other documents usually thrown into notes, are obviously made on principle. So history should be written, so history should be read, is the idea which has determined these citations. However plausible in theory, we greatly doubt the desirableness of this method. It not only enlarges the bulk, it increases the weight of the volumes; and that in a quite disproportionate degree, for not only have we to suffer the heaviness of the old verbose law language, but we have to adjust ourselves to perpetual changes of style, from Mr. Froude's easy and equable sentences to the long involved, quaint, tautologous sentences of his authorities. This gives a patchy effect to the whole. As a matter of art—and history is an art—there cannot be two opinions on this point; and if Mr. Froude thinks it necessary for the case he has to argue that the reader should have before him the exact language of the documents relied on, he should, we think, adopt the ordinary method of telling his story in his own words, and throwing into notes or appendix the documentary evidence.

We think, also, that Mr. Froude indulges too freely in comment and moral reflections. The temptation is very great; but unless the comment be striking or elucidative, the story is hampered by it, and a certain heaviness results. A history without comment would be unendurable; but modern historians generally fall into the opposite error; and Mr. Froude would improve his volumes by a severe excision of at least one half of the remarks into which he has been tempted, many of them seeming to be the easy comment which a practised writer finds ready at a moment's notice, rather than the concentrated results of long reflection on the matter.

We have made this general criticism on Mr. Froude's volumes, because, if he detect any truth in it, and if it falls in with what he hears from others, or what his own subsequent reflection may suggest, his future volumes may be modified. To special criticism we do not feel ourselves competent. The work lies quite beyond the pale of our own studies. It has greatly instructed us, made much clear which before was obscure, and given a rough shake to many old historical prejudgments for which we can adduce no very precise evidence. But to pronounce on the case presented by Mr. Froude in favour of Henry and the English people generally, would require quite other knowledge than we can claim. He staggers us in our old traditional views; he may be quite right in his new views; but we must leave it to historical students to discuss the evidence. It is absurd to meet a man who comes from long and intimate study of a subject, and on no better ground than our opinion, prepossession, or prejudice, to tell him that we differ from him, or that we think him wrong. All that we know is that certain Mr. Froude knew long ago, and over and above that he knows what we never suspected, and has the advantage of long study with a special desire to get at the whole secret of the story.

Thus, also, with his admirable opening chapter on "the social condition of

England in the sixteenth century" we feel that he is painting *en beau*, and leaving out many considerations which would, in our minds, quite alter his picture; but fairly to control his statements we should need a special acquaintance with the times. The chapter will be read with great interest, however, by all persons. Speaking of the general decay of towns which alarmed the government in 1540, Mr. Froude remarks:—

At present, the decay of a town implies the decay of the trade of the town; and the decay of all towns simultaneously would imply a general collapse of the trade of the whole country. Walled towns, however, before the Reformation, existed for other purposes than as the centre points of industry: they existed for the protection of property and life; and although it is not unlikely that the agitation of the Reformation itself did to some degree interrupt the occupation of the people, yet I believe that the true account of the phenomenon which then so much disturbed the parliament, is, that one of their purposes was no longer required; the towns flagged for a time, because the country had become secure. The woollen manufacture in Worcestershire was spreading into the open country, and, doubtless, in other counties as well; and the 'beautiful houses' which had fallen into decay, were those which, in the old times of insecurity, had been occupied by wealthy merchants and tradesmen, who were now enabled, by a strong and settled government, to dispense with the shelter of locked gates and fortified walls, and remove their residences to more convenient situations. It was, in fact, the first symptom of the impending social revolution. Two years before the passing of this Act, the magnificent Hengrave Hall, in Suffolk, had been completed by Sir Thomas Kitson, 'mercator of London,' and Sir Thomas Kitson was but one of many of the rising merchants who were now able to root themselves on the land by the side of the Norman nobility, first to rival, and then slowly to displace them.

Mr. Froude does full justice to the arbitrary yet efficient social organization of that day, which was suited to that day though it would not be to our own, and adds:—

Again, in the distribution of the produce of land, men dealt fairly and justly with each other; and in the material condition of the bulk of the people there is a fair evidence that the system worked efficiently and well. It worked well for the support of a sturdy high-hearted race, sound in body and fierce in spirit, and furnished with thews and sinews which, under the stimulus of those "great shins of beef," their common diet, were the wonder of the age. "What comyn folke in all this world," says a state paper in 1515, "may compare with the comyns of England in riches, freedom, liberty, welfare, and all prosperity? What comyn folke is so mighty, so strong in the felde, as the comyns of England?" The relative numbers of the French and English armies which fought at Cressy and Agincourt may have been exaggerated, but no allowance for exaggeration will affect the greatness of those exploits; and in stories of authentic actions under Henry VIII., where the accuracy of the account is undeniable, no disparity of force made Englishmen shrink from enemies wherever they could meet them. Again and again a few thousands of them carried dismay into the heart of France. Four hundred adventurers, vagabond apprentices from London, who formed a volunteer corps in the Calais garrison, were for years the terror of Normandy. In the very frolic of conscious power they fought and plundered, without pay, without reward, except what they could win for themselves; and when they fell at last, they fell only when surrounded by six times their number, and were cut to pieces in careless desperation. Invariably, by friend and enemy alike, the English are described as the fiercest people in all Europe (the English wild beasts, Benvenuto Cellini calls them); and this great physical power they owed to the profuse abundance in which they lived, and to the soldier's training in which every man of them was bred from childhood.

He correctly estimates the true condition of the working classes by a comparison of their wages with the price of food, both of which were fixed by act of Parliament. Very curious are the details he has here brought together. We borrow the following:—

Beef and pork were a halfpenny a pound—mutton was three farthings. They were fixed at these prices by the 3rd of the 24th of Hen. VIII. But this act was unpopular both with buyers and with sellers. The old practice had been to sell in the gross, and under that arrangement the rates had been generally lower. Stowe says, "It was this year enacted that butchers should sell their beef and mutton by weight—beef for a halfpenny the pound, and mutton for three farthings; which being devised for the great commodity of the realm (as it was thought), hath proved far otherwise: for at that time fat oxen were sold for six-and-twenty shillings and eightpence the piece; fat wethers for three shillings and fourpence the piece; fat calves at a like price; and fat lambs for twelpence. The butchers of London sold penny pieces of beef for the relief of the poor—every piece two pound and a half, sometimes three pound for a penny; and thirteen and sometimes fourteen of these pieces for twelpence; mutton eightpence the quarter, and an hundred weight of beef for four shillings and eightpence." The act was repealed in consequence of the complaints against it, but the prices never fell again to what they had been, although beef sold in the gross could still be had for a halfpenny a pound in 1570.

Strong beer, such as we now buy for eightpence a gallon, was then a penny a gallon; and table-beer less than a halfpenny. French and German wines were eightpence the gallon. Spanish and Portuguese wines a shilling. This was the highest price at which the best wines might be sold; and if there was any fault in quality or quantity, the dealers forfeited four times the amount. Rent, another important consideration, cannot be fixed so accurately, for parliament did not interfere with it. Here, however, we are not without very tolerable information. "My father," says Latimer, "was a yeoman, and had no lands of his own; only he had a farm of three or four pounds by the year at the uttermost, and hereupon he tilled so much as kept half a dozen men. He had walk for a hundred sheep, and my mother milked thirty kine. He was able, and did find the king a harness with himself and his horse. I remember that I buckled on his harness when he went to Blackheath field. He kept me to school, or else I had not been able to have preached before the king's majesty now. He married my sisters with five pounds, or twenty nobles, each, having brought them up in godliness and fear of God. He kept hospitality for his poor neighbours, and some alms he gave to the poor; and all this he did of the said farm." If 'three or four pounds at the uttermost' was the rent of a farm yielding such results, the rent of labourers' cottages is not likely to have been considerable.

I am below the truth, therefore, with this scale of prices in assuming the penny in terms of a labourer's necessities to have been equal in the reign of Henry VIII. to the present shilling. For a penny, at the time of which I write, the labourer could buy more bread, beef, beer, and wine—he could do more towards finding lodging for himself and his family—than the labourer of the nineteenth century can for a shilling. I do not see that this admits of question. Turning, then, to the table of wages, it will be easy to ascertain his position. By the 3rd of the 6th of Henry VIII. it was enacted that master carpenters, masons, bricklayers, tilers, plumbers, glaziers, joiners, and other employers of such skilled workmen, should give to each of their journeymen, if no meat or drink was allowed, sixpence a day for half the year, fivepence a day for the other half; or fivepence halfpenny for the yearly average. The common labourers were to receive fourpence a day for half the year, for the remaining half, threepence. In the harvest months they were allowed to work by the piece, and

might earn considerably more; so that, in fact (and this was the rate at which their wages were usually estimated), the day labourer received on an average fourpence a day for the whole year. Nor was he in danger, except by his own fault or by unusual accident, of being thrown out of employ; for he was engaged by contract for not less than a year, and could not be dismissed before his term had expired, unless some gross misconduct could be proved against him before two magistrates. Allowing a deduction of one day in the week for a saint's day or a holiday, he received, therefore, steadily and regularly, if well conducted, an equivalent of twenty shillings a week: twenty shillings a week and a holiday: and this is far from being a full account of his advantages. In most parishes, if not in all, there were large ranges of common and unenclosed forest land, which furnished his fuel to him gratis, where pigs might range, and ducks and geese; where, if he could afford a cow, he was in no danger of being unable to feed it; and so important was this privilege considered, that when the commons began to be largely enclosed, parliament insisted that the working man should not be without some piece of ground on which he could employ his own and his family's industry. By the 7th of the 31st of Elizabeth, it was ordered that no cottage should be built for residence without four acres of land at lowest being attached to it for the sole use of the occupants of such cottage.

Arbitrary the Government was, to a degree which will make the present generation marvel, and cruel it was, for the people were fierce and cruel, so that we must not be much surprised at the following:—

#### LAW AGAINST BEGGARS.

For an able-bodied man to be caught a third time begging was held a crime deserving death, and the sentence was intended, on fit occasions, to be executed. The poor man's advantages, which I have estimated at so high a rate, were not purchased without drawbacks. He might not change his master at his will, or wander from place to place. He might not keep his children at his home unless he could answer for their time. If out of employment, preferring to be idle, he might be demanded for work by any master of the "craft" to which he belonged, and compelled to work whether he would or no. If caught begging once, being neither aged nor infirm, he was whipped at the cart's tail. If caught a second time, his ear was slit, or bored through with a hot iron. If caught a third time, being thereby proved to be of no use upon this earth, but to live upon it only to his own hurt and to that of others, he suffered death as a felon. So the law of England remained for sixty years. First drawn by Henry, it continued unreprieved through the reigns of Edward and of Mary, subsisting, therefore, with the deliberate approval of both the great parties between whom the country was divided. Reconsidered under Elizabeth, the same law was again formally passed; and it was, therefore, the expressed conviction of the English nation, that it was better for a man not to live at all than to live a profitless and worthless life. The vagabond was a sore spot upon the commonwealth, to be healed by wholesome discipline if the gangrene was not incurable; to be cut away with the knife if the milder treatment of the cart-whip failed to be of profit.

After this chapter, the chapters which will be read with the most general interest are those in the second volume which trace the early struggles of Protestantism, the many martyrdoms, on both sides, the curious admixture of religious and political interests—which has continued to the present day to give religion in England a quite peculiar position—and the trial of Anne Boleyn. A more important or more interesting section of English history cannot easily be named than that comprised within the second of Mr. Froude's volumes; but it is one which has been so distorted by political and religious prejudices on both sides that the historian's task is excessively delicate, unless he boldly adopt a partisan view, and leave to others to take the opposite. Mr. Froude is given to historical paradox, but he is extremely anxious to weigh evidence, and give each fact its due significance; he states the case of Anne Boleyn, for instance, with scrupulous fairness, and leaves us in great perplexity as to which side to take, although he plainly indicates the side he himself takes.

Mr. Froude is a master of narrative and in the rare art of *ordonnance* of vast material, so that the whole subject is marshalled clearly before the reader in a shape to leave in the memory a durable impression. We can remember no book which surpasses it in this respect; and one great result of the art is that we rise from the work with a feeling of having received solid instruction in an easy manner.

#### A LADY IN PERSIA.

*Glimpses of Life and Manners in Persia.* By Lady Sheil.

Murray.

HALF of Persia, said a Scotch traveller, is a desert with salt. The other half is a desert without salt. Lady Sheil, who is a competent witness, almost ratifies this description. When you see a desolate plain or broad valley, she says, with no trees, except a few willows and poplars grouped about the thinly-scattered villages, you see an epitome of Persian scenery, except on the coasts of the Caspian. To believe the lyrists, Persian and others, would be to imagine a land red with roses, a vast paradise of nightingales and bowers, of resplendent cities, and Lights of the World, each as bright as the young summer moon. Lady Sheil, whose Persian dreams had probably been flushed by "Lalla Rookh," seems to have been disappointed by the first glimpse of all that remains of a mighty ancient empire. A certain scepticism stole into her mind when she remembered that these were the dominions of the Great King. But they are among the disforested territories of Asia. Ladoucette and Laurent have proved the extraordinary changes worked in Persia by the destruction of its woods; so that, without accepting all that the ancient writers report as to the opulence of the Persian Empire—entire plains formed into gardens and shaded alleys—rivers consumed in irrigation—foliage overhanging the highways—the air sweet with the scent of flowers—we may conceive that, at a former epoch, Lady Sheil would have found the "fine villages smothered in immense gardens, orchards of the most delicious fruits, and vineyards" more numerous than in the nineteenth century. Wherever the East is under the domination of Eastern rulers, it is in a state of decay. All that Persia wants to become prosperous is the cultivation of the soil. A century of beneficent government might restore all that the Tartars ruined, all that was destroyed by Genghis and Holagou. Yet in Persia, in spite of its barbarism and poverty, there is much to attract the European mind. And Lady Sheil enjoyed an advantage not conferred on Malcolm, notwithstanding his charming stories—or on the diplomatist Porter, though he made the best use of his eyes in Circassia—or on Morier, familiarly as he talks—or on Kinneir, whom she ought not to have forgotten in her list of preceding writers: she lived in the Andersons, the homes of the Persian women, the harems of the Shah, and of several nobles, and is enabled, therefore, to become the anecdotist of female manners in Persia,



**SCOTCH FARMING IN TURKEY.**—About twenty-five agricultural labourers, with their wives and families, have left the Bromfield, Glasgow, by the Beaver steamer, en route for Liverpool, whence they will sail for Turkey by the screw steamer Arcadia. They are under the charge of Mr. Gebbia, lately farm overseer to Mr. Dixon of Govan Ironworks, and are to be employed, under him, in introducing the Scotch system of farming among the Turks and Greeks, upon a beautiful and extensive estate acquired by Mr. Thomas Parry, situated about twelve miles from Constantinople.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

#### BIRTHS.

**BEVERLY.**—On the 31st ult., at 43, Upper Charlotte-street, Pitavoy-square, the wife of William Roxby Beverly Esq., a son.

**CARRINGTON.**—On the 6th ult., at Barbados, Mrs. G. Carrington, of Missenden Abbey, Bucks, a son and heir.

**MENZIES.**—On the 31st ult., at 18, Queen's-terrace, Bayswater, the wife of Duncan Menzies Esq., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, a daughter.

**WYNN.**—On the 2nd inst., in Lower Berkeley-street, the Lady Annora Williams Wynn, a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

**LEGH-WODEHOUSE.**—On the 29th ult., at St. George's Hanover-square, William John Legh Esq., late Captain of the 21st Fusiliers, to Emily Jane, third daughter of the Rev. Canon and Lady Jane Wodehouse.

**LOWTHER-LECHENFELD.**—On the 3rd inst., at Leckhampton, Cheltenham, Marcus Lowther Esq., Lieut. R.N., fifth son of the late George Lowther Esq., of Hampton Hall, Somerset, to Emily, widow of the late Count Maximilian de Lechenfeld, of Munich, Bavaria, and daughter of the late Isaac Cookson Esq., of Meldon-park, Northumberland.

**THEOBALD-MIALL.**—On the 5th inst., Mr. Morell Theobald, of Aller Cottage, Highgate Rise, to Ellen, youngest daughter of Edward Miall Esq., M.P., Sydenham Park.

**WILKINS-STEELE.**—On the 5th of April, at Chicago, Illinois, U.S., John Edward Wilkins Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Chicago, second son of the late John North Wilkins Esq., of Bury-felds, Houghton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, to Margery Wilkie, second daughter of George Steele Esq., of Chicago.

#### DEATHS.

**BULLER.**—On the 4th inst., at his residence, 5, Seamore-place, Mayfair, the Right Hon. Lady Agnes Buller.

**HERVEY.**—On the 1st inst., the Lady Elizabeth Hervey, eldest daughter of the Earl Jermyn, M.P.

**JOHN.**—On the 25th ult., at Winchester, from the effects of illness, contracted in the Crimea before Sebastopol, Captain George Trevelyan John, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, aged 32.

**MENDS.**—On the 26th ult., off Spithead, on her way from West Australia, Isabella, the beloved wife of Commissary-General Mends, and daughter of the late Capt. Creighton, of the 11th Dragoons, and grand-daughter of the late Admiral Sir Richard Onslow, Bart., G.C.B.

**SHARPE.**—On the 31st ult., at his residence, 17, Scho-square, in consequence of a fall from his horse, Daniel Sharpe Esq., F.R. and L.S., and President of the Geological Society, in the 51st year of his age.

### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 3.

**BANKRUPTS.**—JAMES FISHER, York-road, Lambeth, and Cornhill-road, carpenter—FREDERICK FRYROE, Regent-street, jeweller—JAMES GILLIVER GLAZE, Serle's-place, law stationer—THOMAS COLE, Wandsworth, licensed victualler—ROBERT DIX DAVEY, Beckford-row, Walworth, milliner—JAMES OSBORNE, Curran-road, Shore-ditch, upholsterer—HENRY PRATT BARLOW, late of Lawrence Pountney-lane, and Cannon-street West, wine-merchant—HENRY CRITCHLOW, Dudley, baker—THOMAS COOPER, Derby, builder—JAMES BRADBURY, HERBERT and 52, Ward-hindley, Liverpool, coal factor—RICHARD BIRCHALL, jun., St. Helen's, Lancashire, ironmonger.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.**—J. WILSON, West Linton, Peebleshire, fletcher—G. BARCLAY, Aberdeen, merchant.

Friday, June 6.

**BANKRUPTS.**—JOHN AVERY NANCASAWEN DAWES, JAMES HODGES COTTELL, and THOMAS BENHAM, Laurence Pountney-lane, City, seed merchants and seedsmen—ANTON LEO, Jeffrey-square, St. Mary Axe, merchant—GEORGE TARRINGTON, Devonshire-street, Portland-place, lodging-house-keeper—FREDERICK COOPER, Cheshire, Stafford—GEORGE JOSHUA PALMER the elder, Savoy-street, Strand, printer—JOSEPH SAMUEL ROBINSON, Brook-street, New-road, Middlesex, stonemason—JAMES WRIGHT, Bristol, cheese-factor—JOHN WILLIAM CLARKE, Bury St. Edmund's, ironmonger—GEORGE WORTHALL JONES, Crickhowell, Breconshire, banker—ROBERT FISHER, Exeter, builder—THOMAS DICKSON the younger, Bishopsgate-street Within, City, merchant—PETER HULME EDGE, Manchester, match manufacturer—GEORGE FREDERICK ABBOTT, Clonakilly, Cork, and Manchester, draper.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.**—ROBERT WHITE, Glasgow, provision merchant—GEORGE GOWAN, Edinburgh, architect.

## Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, June 6, 1856.

THE Transatlantic news, and the frightful account of the inundations in France, have cast a sombre shadow over the stock and railway markets during the week. The settling of the Consol account took place during the week; the Consol was high above half per cent., which shows the prevalence of a heavy bull account. Turkish 6 per cent. and 4 per cent. continue firm, but little doing in them. Mexicans are flatter, the account of a large sum having arrived per Solent, for dividends, being untrue. Canada Government Securities and the Railways in that colony are all flatter, owing to the American difficulties.

Joint Stock Banks remain about the same. The heavy share market is perceptibly lower, and this feeling applies also to the foreign share market both French and Belgian. In Mines there is no stir—a few inquiries after United Mexican shares and Brazilian. Crystal Palace shares are heavy; the great amount of business indeed that promised throughout all the week has come to a stop. The anxiety about the United States quarrel is felt all over the City. The dismissal of our Minister from Washington is perhaps less

dwelt upon than the fear of a chance quarrel between the two naval squadrons in the Central American coast, and the possibility of two hot-headed sea captains causing infinite mischief and ill-will, if not a disastrous war between the two nations.

Money for commercial purposes is much easier, and were it not for the belligerent tone of the United States Government, we might see Consols at 95 before August. At four o'clock the Market closed almost all round. Consols for account, 95 1/2.

Aberdeen, 252, 264; Bristol and Exeter, 88, 90; Caledonian, 90, 91; Chester and Holyhead, 16, 17; East Anglian, 164, 171; Eastern Counties, 10, 10 1/2; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 60, 62; Great Northern, 94, 95 1/2; Ditto, A stock, 78, 79; Ditto B stock, 120, 131; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104, 106; Great Western, 61, 61 1/2; Lancaster and Carlisle, 70, 75; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 92, 92 1/2; London and Blackwall, 61, 71; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 105 1/2; London and North-Western, 101, 102 1/2; London and South Western, 98, 99; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 291, 292; Midland, 78, 78 1/2; Birmingham and Derby, 48, 50; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 13, 13 1/2; North British, 351, 354; North Eastern (Berwick), 81, 82; Ditto, Extension, 54, 42; Ditto, Great North Eastern Purchase, 54, 22; Ditto, Leeds, 173, 171; Ditto, York, 58, 59; North Staffordshire, 6, 5 1/2; Ditto, Great Central, 102, 104; Scottish Midland, 77, 79; South Devon, 14, 15; South Eastern, 714, 713; South Wales, 73, 75; Vale of Neath, 19, 20; West Cornwall, 64, 71; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 84, 84; Bombay and Baroda, 14, 2 p.m.; Dutch Rhenish, 1, 1 1/2 p.m.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 371, 374; East Indian, 231, 24; Ditto, Extension, 23, 25 1/2; Great Central, 43, 44; Paris and Lyons, 97 1/2; Great Central of France, 6, 6 1/2 p.m.; Great Indian Peninsula, 224, 224 1/2; Great Luxembourg, 54, 51; Great Western of Canada, 254, 254; Ditto, New, 21, 21 p.m.; Great Western of Canada Bonds, payable 1857, 100, 102; Ditto, ditto, Bonds, payable 1873, without option, 107, 110; Madras 44 per cent. guar., 201, 201 1/2; Namur and Liege, with interest, 71, 8; Northern of France, 434, 44; Paris and Lyons, 97 1/2; Paris and Orleans, 53, 55; Royal Danish, 19, 20; Sambre and Meuse, 111, 111 1/2; Seine, guar. 5 per cent., 23, 34 p.m.; West Flanders, 41, 41 1/2; Western and North Western of France, 36, 37; Commercial, London, 32, 33; Colonial, 21, 22; London Chartered Australian, 184, 19; London Joint Stock, 311; London and Westminster, 48; Oriental Bank, 411; South Australian, 33; Santiago de Cuba, 33, 33 1/2.

### CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, June 6, 1856.

THE supply of English Wheat this week has been quite trifling, and of Foreign very moderate; amongst the latter have been the first arrivals from St. Petersburg, including hard and soft Kubanka Wheat; the former has been taken readily at 6s. per 42 lbs., the latter is of poor quality, and though held for the same money, does not find buyers. Holders are very firm, and though buyers are not very numerous, there is a fair trade doing at from 1s. to 2s. over Monday's rates. The arrivals of Wheat and Maize off the coast have been rather numerous—of these, three cargoes of Galatz Wheat have been sold at 55s. and 56s.; four of Kafat at 57s. to 58s., and 58s. 3d.; and two of Belchira at 41s. and 38s. 6d., all cost, freight, and insurance. Seven cargoes of Galatz Maize have been taken at 28s. to 29s. 6d., and 30s.; and one cargo in poor condition at 28s.; and four cargoes of Ibrail at 28s., 28s. 3d. to 28s. 6d. and 28s. 9d., cost, freight, and insurance. There is not much demand for cargoes on passage. Of barley the supply is quite trifling, and the little on sale readily brings 1s. over Monday's prices. Oats to a large extent are in demand at 1s. advance; and it appears hardly probable that the supplies of this article will be sufficient to keep prices so low as they are at present. Beans are likewise held with more firmness.

### BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....			2174	2161	218	217
3 per Cent. Consols.....	93 1/2	93 1/2	93 1/2	93 1/2	93 1/2	93 1/2
3 per Cent. Consols, An. Consols for Account.....	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2
New 3 per Cent. An. New 2 1/2 per Cents.....	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2
Long Ann. 1860.....	3 3-16		34	3 3-16	3 3-16	3 3-16
India Stock.....			236	236	233	
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....			3 p	3 p	3 p	2 p
Ditto, under £1000.....			3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	3 p	3	7	4 p	8 p	8 p
Ditto, £500.....			4	4 p	8 p	8 p
Ditto, Small.....			7	4 p	8 p	8 p

### FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	100	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	107 1/2
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	101	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	97 1/2
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	69 1/2	Russian 4 1/2 per Cents.....	47 1/2
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	62	Spanish Committee Cer. of Coup. not fun.....	63
Dutch 2 1/2 per Cents.....	93	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	99 1/2
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. ....	93	Turkish New, 4 ditto .....	103 1/2
Ecuador Bonds.....	22 1/2	Venezuela, 4 per Cents. ....	30
Mexican Account.....	77 1/2		
Peruvian 4 1/2 per Cents.....	46 1/2		

**DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.**  
4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen only) from Ten till Twelve, containing upwards of one thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, Four, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Half-past Eight every evening.—Admission 1s.

**BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.**  
This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind, for, during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London, and all Medicine Vendors.  
Price 1s. 1/4d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

### ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

Monday and during the week, first time, a New Farce called A FASCINATING INDIVIDUAL. Characters by Messrs. F. Bolson, Emery, G. Murray, Danvers; Misses Marston and Castleton. After which the New Drama of RETRIBUTION. Principal characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, Emery, G. Vining, G. Murray, Leslie, Franks; Miss Marston and Miss Herbert. To conclude with STAY AT HOME. Characters by Messrs. G. Vining, Emery, Leslie, F. Vining, G. Murray, White; Miss Bromley, Miss Ternan, and Mrs. Stirling. Commence at Half-past Seven o'clock.

### MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND.

Exeter Hall.—Last Concert but Two in this Country. Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT will give a Miscellaneous Concert, with full band and chorus, at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday Evening, June 11, it being the last Concert but Two which will be given by Madame Goldschmidt in this country.—Programme: Part I.—Overture, "Les deux Journées" (Cherubini). Air, "Pensée alla Patria" Madame Viardot ("L'Italiana in Algeri"—Rossini). Air, Madame Goldschmidt ("Armida"—Glück). Fantasia on Themes of "Don Juan" of Mozart, with Orchestral Accompaniment, Violoncello, Horn, Trumpets, from Berlin (Guns). Duo, "Ebbene, te ferisci"—"Giorno d'orrore" Madame Goldschmidt and Madame Pauline Viardot ("Semiramide"—Rossini). Concertstück, for Piano-forte, with Orchestral Accompaniment; Piano-forte, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt (C. M. von Weber). Scene and Aria, "Ah non credes"—"Ah non giunge" Madame Goldschmidt ("Sonnambula"—Bellini). Part II.—Choral Fantasia, Piano-forte, Orchestra, and Chorus; Piano-forte, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt (Beethoven). Duett, "Per piacere alla Signora" Madame Goldschmidt and Signor Belletti ("Il Turco in Italia"—Rossini). Duo Concertante, for Violin and Violoncello, without accompaniment, Messrs. Leopold and Moritz Gans, from Berlin (L. and M. Gans). Morning Hymn, Soprano, Solo, and Female Chorus, Madame Goldschmidt ("La Vestale"—Rossini). Cavatina, "Di militari onori" Signor Belletti ("Jenny" Spohr). Scotch Ballad, "John Anderson, my Jo," and a Swedish Melody, "The Echo Song" Madame Goldschmidt. Part-song (Pearls). Coronation March (Meyerbeer). Conductor, M. Benedict. Doors open at Seven. To commence at Eight o'clock precisely.

Reserved and numbered seats, 1l. 1s.; unreserved seats (West Gallery and body of the Hall), 6s. 6d.; area (under West Gallery), 7s. No more Tickets will be issued than can be conveniently accommodated—Applications for tickets received by Mr. Mitchell, Royal Library, 35, Old Bond-street.

### CRYSTAL PALACE.—THE GREAT

FOUNTAINS.—The Directors of the Crystal Palace Company beg to announce that Wednesday, the 18th of June, has been fixed for the opening of the GREAT FOUNTAINS. On this day will take place the First Public Display of the whole system of Waterworks, comprising (in addition to the Fountains already in action) the Water Temples, the Cascades, the Two Large Waterfalls, and the Fountains of the Grand Lower Basins.

On this occasion, admission will be limited to holders of One Guinea (pink) and Two Guinea (yellow) Season Tickets, and to persons paying Half a Guinea.

Transferable Tickets (blue) will not be available on this day. See the dates specified on the face of these Tickets. The doors of the Palace and Park will be opened at Twelve.

Military Bands will be in attendance, in addition to the Band of the Company.

By order, G. GROVE, Secretary.

Crystal Palace, June 5, 1856.

### FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by Modern Artists of the FRENCH SCHOOL is NOW OPEN, at the GALLERY, 121, Pall Mall. Admission 1s. Season Tickets 5s. Catalogues 6d.

B. TRODSHAM, Secretary.

### MR. GEORGE BUCKLAND'S PICTORIAL

AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS (Songs and Scenes from the Tempest) having been most successfully received, will be given at the Regent Gallery, 60, Regent-street, every evening at 8 o'clock (Saturdays excepted), and on Saturday afternoons at 3 o'clock. Mr. George Buckland will be assisted in the vocal portion of the Entertainment by Miss Clara Fraser.—Admission, 1s. and 2s.; dress stalls, 3s. Box-office open from 11 to 4.

### TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.

By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the only patent existing for these preparations).

Strongly Recommended by the Medical Profession.

### ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS

ADNAM and BARLEY are manufactured by a process which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant flavour, so universally found in similar preparations. They produce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and, being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudding, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

The Patentees publish one only of the numerous testimonials they have received from eminent medical professors, relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy.)

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,

February 19, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopic and chemical examination the samples of barley and groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed) A. S. TAYLOR.

"Messrs. Adnam and Co."

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c., in Town and Country.

**SISAL CIGARS, SISAL CIGARS, at GOOD-**  
RICH'S Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores (established 1790), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square.—Box, containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra: 1b. boxes, containing 190, 12s. 6d. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock of the most approved Brands.

**DR. DE JONGH'S  
LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.**

Specially rewarded for its purity and efficacy by the Governments of BELGIUM and THE NETHERLANDS, and sanctioned by the ROYAL SANITARY POLICE OF PRUSSIA.

**OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

**THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR OF  
HOLLAND.**

I have the honour of bringing to your knowledge that it has pleased the King to grant you, by his decree No. 101, a silver medal, with an appropriate honorary inscription, as a testimony of his Majesty's high approbation of your efforts in securing to this country a supply of the purest and most efficacious Cod Liver Oil.

The Minister of the Interior,  
(Signed) VAN DER HEYM.

To Dr. De Jongh, at the Hague.

**THE INTENDANT OF THE CIVIL LIST OF  
BELGIUM.**

Sir—The King has charged me to return you his very particular thanks for the homage done to him by the presentation of your most valuable researches concerning the Cod Liver Oil; an expression of his utmost satisfaction, his Majesty has given me the order of presenting you with the accompanying large gold medal.—I remain, with the highest regard, &c.,

The Intendant of the Civil List,  
(Signed) COXWIE.

To Dr. De Jongh, at the Hague.

Sold Wholesale and Retail, in bottles capsuled and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., sole British Consignees, 77, Strand, London; and by many respectable Chemists and Druggists throughout the United Kingdom.  
Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 8s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

**SCHWEPPE'S MALVERN SELTZER**  
WATER. Having leased the Holy Well Spring at Malvern, renowned for its purity, J. S. and Co. can now produce a SELTZER WATER with all the CHEMICAL and MEDICINAL properties which have rendered the Nassau Spring so celebrated. They continue Manufacturing SODA, MAGNESIA, and POTASS WATERS and LEMONADE, at LONDON, LIVERPOOL, BRISTOL, and DERRY.  
Every bottle is protected by a Red Label bearing their signature.

**MINERAL WATERS OF VICHY.**—The increasing demand for these Waters, as valuable remedial agents, by the Upper Classes in England, has induced the Company to whom the French Government has conceded the privilege of vending them, to form an Establishment in London, where they may be obtained in any quantities precisely as they are bottled at the springs. The PASTILLS or LOZENGES prepared from the Saline Constituents of the Vichy Waters, and the SALTS, for Internal Use or for Baths, so celebrated on the Continent for all Stomach, Liver, and Renal Diseases, Gout, Rheumatism, &c., are also kept at the VICHY WATERS COMPANY'S DEPOT, 27, MARGARET STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS**  
FOR BAD LEGS: NO REMEDY IS EQUAL TO THEM.—Mrs. Wright, of the Denary House, Penkridge, Staffordshire, suffered for a period of five years with bad legs, and had the best medical advice without obtaining any relief. At last she was induced to try Holloway's Ointment and Pills; and, after persevering with them for an inconsiderable time, a perfect cure was effected, and since that two years have elapsed without any return of the complaint, and Mrs. Wright is now enjoying the very best of health.  
Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 46, Maiden-lane, New York; at A. Stamps, Constantinople; A. Guidry, Smyrna; and R. Muir, Malta.

In the High Court of Chancery.  
**TRIESEMAR.**—On the 29th of May, 1855, an injunction was granted by the High Court of Chancery, and on the 11th of June following was made perpetual, against Joseph Franklin and others, to restrain them, under a penalty of 1,000l., from imitating this medicine, which is protected by Royal Letters Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Trieseemar, No. 1, is a remedy for Relaxation, Spermatorrhoea, and all the distressing consequences arising from early abuse, &c., and its effects are efficacious in youth, manhood, and old age; and to those persons who are prevented entering the married state from the results of early errors it is invaluable. Trieseemar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capivi and cubeba have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. Trieseemar, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Trieseemar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lay on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Trieseemar, Nos. 1, 2, 3, are sold in tin cases, one for 11s., or four cases in one for 35s.; which saves 11s., and in 5d. cases, whereby there is a saving of 11. 12s.: divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c. To be had wholesale and retail in London, of Johnson, 65, Cornhill; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; and Banger, 130, Oxford-street; E. H. Inglish, 46, Market-street, Manchester; H. Bradbury, bookseller, Deansgate, Bolton; J. Priestly, chemist, 23, Lord-street, Liverpool; Powell, bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin; Winnall, bookseller, High-street, Birmingham.

**BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.**—WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIX LARGE SHOW ROOMS devoted exclusively to the SEPARATE DISPLAY of LAMPS, BATHS, and METALLIC BEDSTEADS. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from ... 40 12 6 to 412 0 0 each  
Shower baths, from ... 0 7 6 to 5 15 0 each  
Lamps (Moderator), from 0 6 0 to 6 6 0 each  
All other kinds at the same rate.

**CUTLERY WARRANTED.**—The most varied assortment of TABLE-CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is on SALE at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales. 34 inch ivory-handled table-knives, with high shoulders, 11s. per dozen; dessert to match, 10s.; if to balance, 1s. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 28s. per dozen; extra fine, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. and 50s.; white bone table-knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 5s. 6d.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table-knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table-knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish-carvers.

**PAPIER MACHE and IRON TEA-TRAYS.**—An assortment of TEA-TRAYS and WAITERS wholly unprecedented, whether as to extent, variety, or novelty. New Oval Papier Mache Trays, per set of three, from 20s. 0d. to 10 guineas. Ditto, Iron ditto, from 13s. 0d. to 4 guineas. Convex shape, ditto, from 7s. 6d. Round and gothic waiters, cake and bread-baskets equally low.

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The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced twenty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by Ivory, 32s.; of Messrs. Elkington and Co.; is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread or Old Silver Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks per dozen	38s.	48s.	60s.
Dessert ditto and ditto	38s.	38s.	42s.
Tea ditto	18s.	24s.	30s.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Cruet, and Liqueur Frames, Waiters, Candelsticks, &c. at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.

**CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.**

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Table Spoons and Forks per dozen	12s.	21s.	30s.
Dessert ditto and ditto	10s.	18s.	25s.
Tea ditto	6s.	11s.	12s.

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29, OXFORD-STREET; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4, 5, and 6, PERRY'S-PLACE.  
Established A.D. 1820.

**BUY OF THE MAKERS.**—BRUSHES, COMBS, and BROOMS of every description, whether for the dressing-table, household, or stable use, thirty per cent. lower than any other house in the trade, at the Manufacturers, J. and J. WITHERS, 36, Tottenham-court-road (opposite Bedford-street, Bedford-square).—Warranted tooth brushes, 3d.; superior ditto, 4d.; the best that can be made, 6d. each.—N.B. The lowest price asked, and no abatement.

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**212° MILNERS' HOLDFAST AND FIRE-RESISTING SAFES** (non-conducting and vapour-proof), with all the improvements, under their Quadruple Patents of 1840, 51, 54, and 1845, including their Gunpowder-proof Solid Lock and Door (without which no safe is secure).

THE STRONGEST, BEST, and CHEAPEST SAFEGUARDS EXTANT.  
MILNERS' PHENIX (212 degrees) SAFE WORKS, LIVERPOOL, the most complete and extensive in the world. Show-rooms, 6 and 8, Lord-street, Liverpool. London Depot, 47A, Moorgate-street, City. Circulars free by post.  
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**THE FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS,** made to order, from Scotch Harek and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool and thoroughly shrunken, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street.  
THE PELISSIER OVERCOAT, 21s. and 28s., adapted for the season; the TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COATS; the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS; and the HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOAT.  
N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

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**ALEX. ROSS'S DEPILATORY,** for removing effectually superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, and hands, without the slightest injury to the skin. A.R. will warrant it not to irritate the flesh in the smallest degree, and the hair to be entirely destroyed.—Sold in bottles, at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; or applied at the Hair Dyeing Establishment, as above. Forwarded for stamps; free by post, eight extra.

**SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.**—The ANNUAL MEETING of the above SOCIETY was held in EDINBURGH on the 6th May. The report by the Directors stated that the number of policies issued during the year ending 1st March last, was 639, the sums assured thereby being £293,950, and the annual premiums thereon £9,120.

The result of the investigation for the triennial division of profits was then announced. The surplus ascertained to have arisen amounted to £183,839, which wholly belongs to the members, but of which one-third (£61,279) must, by the laws of the Society, be set aside as a reserve for allocation at the next triennial division in 1859.

From the remaining two-thirds a Bonus was declared at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, on all policies on which six premiums had been paid, not only on the sums in the policies, but also on the former vested bonuses.

There was left, in addition to £61,279 of reserve above stated, a surplus of £13,623, together £74,902 to go to the next division.

The INVESTED FUNDS of the Society amount to.....**\$979,261**

The ANNUAL REVENUE to.....**\$169,400**

The EXISTING ASSURANCES to.....**\$4,764,949**

Copies of the report may be obtained at the Society's head office, 25, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh; at the London office, Bishopsgate-street Within; and at any of the agencies.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.  
ARCHIBALD T. RITCHIE, London Agent.

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No. 3, PALL-MALL EAST, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1844.

Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to examine the plan of the Bank of Deposit. Prospectuses and forms for opening accounts sent free on application.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

**SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.**  
London Branch—66, Gracechurch-street, City.  
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ASSURANCES, with whole Profits, for a rate of Premium about the same as is charged in other Offices for a fixed amount not entitled to any additions.

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The ANNUAL MEETING of the SOCIETY was held on the 20th February, JOHN SINCLAIR, Esq., City Clerk, in the chair. The Report from the Directors showed, that "the business of the past year has considerably exceeded that of the previous year—a result which, considering the continued pressure on the industrial resources of the country the Directors could not have ventured to anticipate."

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